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# Thatcher wins £557m order for frigates

## Ministers agree special credit for Pakistan

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The Pakistan government has agreed secretly to buy three of the Royal Navy's latest Type 23 frigates.

The £557 million deal follows a last-minute intervention by Mrs Margaret Thatcher to clinch an unprecedented financial package during the visit of the Pakistani Prime Minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, 10 days ago.

The agreement by Mr Junejo to buy the frigates was not announced or signed during his stay in London, because of political sensitivity over the credit arrangements, which need to be approved by the Government in Islamabad.

But a team from the Ministry of Defence, Grindlays Bank and GEC flew out to Karachi yesterday to finalize the financial aspects after concern by defence ministers, supported by Mrs Thatcher, that the deal should be signed by April 30, the day before the beginning of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month. Pakistan has agreed to the deal.

The possibility of a defence deal with Pakistan during Mr Junejo's visit was at the top of the agenda in the talks with Mrs Thatcher and Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for

# Smiles after Bourj al-Barajneh horror



Dr Cutting, left, and Susan Wighton relaxing yesterday after their return to Britain.

## Doctor recalls 'day of the amputees'

By Michael McCarthy

The British surgeon Dr Pauline Cutting flew back to Britain yesterday with a calmly-told horror story of the work she performed in the Beirut Palestinian refugee camp of Bourj al-Barajneh during its siege by Lebanese Muslim militiamen. It had echoes of Florence Nightingale's Crimea.

Dr Cutting, aged 35, arrived at Heathrow Airport from Cyprus with Susan Wighton, a 27-year-old Scottish nurse. The two had together endured five months of starvation rations, shelling and sniping from the Amal militia as they tried to care for the camp's sick, wounded and dying.

They were welcomed by parents, relatives and friends and spoke of their hopes and fears for the people remaining behind in the camps, and of what they had experienced.

With the simple clinical detachment of the operating theatre, Dr Cutting recounted in detail the worst of the many bad days she and her colleagues in the medical team had to work through - Friday February 13, a day they refer to now as "the day of the amputees".

"The hospital was running out of medicines and we had run out of some basic antibiotics," she said. "So we started the day by doing a ward round, looking at two children who were dying for lack of medicines. Then there was a ceasefire declared, so we heard on the radio, and it was thought that some trucks might be coming into the camp with food."

Because of the ceasefire many people were sitting out in the streets, some people were sitting out drinking some tea, and a bomb landed in the middle of them.

"Just after we were finishing the ward round, we suddenly heard the commotion of people coming to the emergency room, and the first one came in, and we saw that he was a bilateral amputee, which was pretty devastating. Then they came in one by one by one till there were seven. Bilateral amputees."

"Two of them died almost immediately, then we had five to operate on. We were very short of fuel, so we couldn't... not only could we not keep them waiting because of the fuel, but also because they were bleeding and becoming shocked, so we decided we'd have to operate on them two by two."

"But we only had one operating table, so we took them in two by two, one on a trolley, and four doctors worked at once... it sounds very gruesome, but we only

# Nato in confusion over Gorbachov arms offer

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Sir Geoffrey said an assessment of the Soviet offer had to be set in train urgently and promptly. Mr Shultz declared that Nato had some "hard decisions" to make, but did not elaborate.

There are fears that the British and French nuclear deterrents, which have been firmly kept off the INF agenda.

Whitehall options.....5  
Ancient grievance.....12  
Gorbachov appeal.....18

at the insistence of Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand, might be drawn into an arms deal as part of Moscow's hidden-price for an agreement.

"Why should Moscow withdraw its missiles but still have British and French rockets pointing at it?" one diplomat asked. There is also confusion over the Pershing 1A missile in West Germany, which Mr

# Russia hits at Shultz after talks

The Kremlin yesterday accused Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, of "hiding behind the backs" of America's Nato allies by leaving Moscow without providing concrete response to Mr Gorbachov's offer to eliminate shorter-range missiles from Europe within a year.

Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Kremlin's chief spokesman, urged the Reagan Administration to hurry the consultations which began yesterday in Brussels and to provide a prompt response to Moscow's new proposals. "A new summit is possible only if there is a constructive reply to our proposals, not negative counter-proposals," he told a press conference.

Other elements in the Soviet initiative unveiled during a 4½-hour meeting between Mr Gorbachov and Mr Shultz on Tuesday included proposals covering anti-missile defences and underground nuclear testing.

Emphasizing the urgency with which the Soviet side is seeking an agreement to eliminate medium-range missiles from Europe, Mr Gerasimov said of the Nato consultations begun by Mr Shultz: "It would be unfortunate if this led to protracted discussion. We hope the process will not continue forever, but within a certain timeframe."

The spokesman refused to

## INSIDE Markets boosted by PSBR

A steadier performance for the dollar, a big undershoot in Government borrowing, and the Conservative lead in the opinion polls sent financial markets higher. The Public Sector Borrowing Requirement at £3.3 billion for 1986-87, was the lowest since 1972-73. The FT 30 share index closed up 25.2 at 1,540.3. The pound lost nearly half a point to \$1.63 but the sterling index rose from 72.0 to 72.4. Page 19

**Avana loses**  
Avana, the Welsh baking group, lost its battle for independence when Ranks Hovis McDougall declared an eleventh-hour victory in its £280 million bid. Page 19

**Manager goes**  
Lawrie McMenamy has resigned from the highest paid manager's job in British football, at Sunderland, after less than two years. Bob Stokoe takes over. Page 32

**Davis fancied**  
Steve Davis, beaten in the last two finals, is favoured to win the Embassy World snooker championship starting at Sheffield tomorrow. Page 29

# Village hit as IRA mounts mortar attack on army base

By Richard Ford

Millworkers and residents in the village of Bessbrook, Co Armagh, escaped death and serious injury yesterday in a Provisional IRA mortar attack on an important army base.

The terrorists attempted to fire 16 mortars from a pick-up truck parked at an industrial estate 200 yards from a linen mill which is partly occupied by the security forces.

But their plans went wrong when four exploded destroying the lorry and another seven landed in the civilian part of the mill where people were working. Another damaged a house in the village.

They failed to explode but last night Superintendent Niall Howe, the sub-di-

# Guinness may sue for missing £25m

By Lawrence Lever

Guinness is planning to bring legal action against the recipients of the £25 million mystery payments it unearthed unless the money is returned.

So far, the company has only reported to the courts for £5.2 million paid to a Jersey nominee company, suing Mr Ernest Saunders, its former chairman, and Mr Thomas Ward, a Guinness director, over the payment.

This week the High Court maintained an injunction freezing the assets of Mr Saunders, and ordered both Mr Saunders and Mr Ward to provide further information.

Some £7.5 million of the £25 million has already been returned to the company. It is

# Anti-Kinnock speech inquiry by Labour

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Mr Larry Whitty, Labour's general secretary, has written to Miss Sharon Atkin, the party's parliamentary candidate for Nottingham East, asking her to clarify her remarks that she did not "give a damn" about being a candidate, about Mr Neil Kinnock, or about the "racist" Labour Party.

He has told her that if there is no satisfactory explanation, he will have to make an

# Accord on MPs' questioning

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The protracted dispute between the Government and the Commons select committees over the latter's powers to question Civil Servants about their conduct has for the time being been resolved.

The constitutional dispute was sparked by the Government's refusal to allow the defence committee to interrogate the senior Civil Servants involved in the leaking of the Solicitor General's letter to Mr Michael Heseltine, then Secretary of

# Thousands flock abroad for Easter sunshine

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A combination of Britain's improved economy, a strong pound and two weeks of wet and miserable weather has sent hundreds of thousands of holiday-makers flying off for a spring holiday abroad.

Tour companies reported increases of more than 50 per cent in the number of passengers flying out from Britain over Easter with Spain and the Mediterranean still the hot favourite destinations.

But other companies reported similar strong demand for Easter breaks in Northern Europe. British Airways said that Moscow and Leningrad were particularly strong following Mrs Thatcher's recent visit. But also popular were such cities as Paris.

Britain should be warm and sunny today but colder weather and showers are expected on Saturday and Sunday. Weather report, page 18

Amsterdam, Copenhagen and Salzburg.

Meanwhile at Gatwick, British Caledonian were exultant over the recovery in their North Atlantic traffic. They claimed that over Easter 36 per cent more people were booked to fly with them to America compared with the same period last year, with Los Angeles showing a 75 per cent improvement on the previous year.

The Association of British Travel Agents said that many people had booked their holidays at the last moment after suffering weeks of rain and wind at home.

Unfortunately for some, the holiday got off to a delayed start at Gatwick yesterday when 51 flights were diverted from the fog-bound airport. Many were delayed for up to five hours.

Gatwick as a whole expects to handle around 10 per cent more passengers this year than last Easter, with some 60,000 flying out on Saturday on around 500 flights.

Holiday-makers are being urged to apply for temporary passports from Post Offices to avoid delays caused by a record number of applications to London's Passport Office.

The Government advice came yesterday as 40 extra staff at the office's Petty France headquarters prepared to work throughout the Bank Holiday weekend to clear some of the big backlog, which is causing delays averaging eight weeks.

"With more and more people travelling abroad there is a boom in passport business and we expect the number issued to well exceed last year's record number of 2.2 million", the Home Office said yesterday.

Since the start of the year up to 15,000 applications a week have been handled by the office, a third more than normal.

Yesterday there were long queues of people making applications and most had to wait about an hour.

The country's other passport offices at Liverpool, Peterborough, Glasgow and Belfast, have all reported increased demand.

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## NEWS SUMMARY

## 1,000 jobs lost at tractor plant

Massey Ferguson, the Canadian-owned manufacturer of tractors, announced yesterday that it is to shed 1,000 jobs at its Coventry plant. The remaining staff will be asked to take wage cuts.

The statement ended speculation about job losses in the face of a world-wide slump in sales of farm machinery. The company is seeking volunteers for 800 redundancies among hourly paid employees and a further 200 among white collar staff by mid-July.

## £200 to save a book

The British Library launched an "Adopt a Book" scheme yesterday to help to save two million of its old books which are almost falling apart.

The library, which holds 15 million volumes, called in the services of Mr Jeffrey Archer, the best-selling author and Roland Rat, the television puppet, to launch the scheme.

Under the Adopt a Book scheme everyone, from individuals to schools or businesses, can adopt a book for £200. When it has been repaired and restored, the name of the sponsor will be inscribed inside it.

## Strike threat

The Civil and Public Services Association threatened yesterday to call an all-out strike in the south of England if Civil Servants are forced to write out Giro payments by hand.

Computer centres which process Giro payments have been hit by industrial action as part of the union's campaign for a 15 per cent pay rise.

Scottish Civil Servants walked out this week after staff at the Livingston, Lothian, computer centre were ordered to write out Giro claims by hand or receive no pay.

## Doctor to appeal

Dr Jennifer Colman-Archer, who was struck off the general medical register for being abusive to senior colleagues and patients, has lodged an appeal against the General Medical Council's decision.

Dr Colman-Archer, aged 43, a former farm worker of Sandy Lane, Dereham, Norfolk, was struck off last month.

"I am certainly appealing and have new evidence to present", she said.

## Murder attempt trial

A bus driver was committed for trial at Maidstone Crown Court yesterday charged with abducting and attempting to murder Catherine Humphrey, aged 10.

Kelvin Robert Chapman, aged 28, of Uxbridge Road, Shepherds Bush, west London, was remanded in custody by magistrates at Ramsgate, Kent, who refused an application for the trial to be held at the Central Criminal Court.

## Writer makes plea for nuclear glasnost

By Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

A more critical attitude towards the safety of nuclear power must be taken by the Press because a Chernobyl-type accident could happen in any country developing atomic energy, according to Mr Gubaryev, science editor of *Pravda*.

He was speaking in an

exclusive interview before the premiere last night by the Royal Shakespeare Company of *Sarcophagus*, a morality play based on the medical isolation unit which treated the victims suffering acute exposure to radiation from the nuclear catastrophe last year. It is being performed at the Barbican in London.

He was the first journalist

on the scene and returned 11 times. Yesterday he told me the experience had changed his view from unquestioning acceptance of nuclear power and absolute faith in the infallibility of the expert.

Vladimir Gubaryev, aged 49, was an engineer by training, who joined *Pravda* in 1976.

He wrote the play for the

literary periodical, *Znamya* (The Banner), which sold 250,000 copies last September.

Meanwhile scientists predicted yesterday that radiation levels in upland sheep pastures in parts of Cumbria and North Wales, affected by fallout from Chernobyl, will not return to safe levels for at least another year.

Mr Ian Curteis, the playwright whose drama about the Falklands war was shelved by the BBC, has requested a meeting with the corporation's board of governors.

The BBC decided the play had too many "political overtones" to be shown in the run-up to an election.

## US 'set for new shuttle disaster'

By Craig Seton

The United States will suffer another space disaster similar to the destruction of the Challenger shuttle if the mission is resumed, a British Aerospace official predicted yesterday.

Mr William Alexander, managing director of GEC Avionics, said: "If they do go ahead with substantially the same machine, but beefed up, I believe they are going to have another accident after another 25 flights or so. That is the probability."

Mr Alexander, speaking at a seminar in Birmingham on safety and reliability, said the Challenger had been, in effect, an experimental "flying machine" and should never have been used to take senators and school teachers on trips into space.

A school teacher was among the seven crew of the Challenger who died when the shuttle exploded shortly after take off a year ago.

Mr Alexander said: "The surprising thing about the accident to the space shuttle was that so many people were surprised it happened."

He said the shuttle had achieved 24 flights without a serious problem before disaster struck. That had not been a bad record.

"It is effectively in the experimental aircraft category. If standards were raised any higher than mission of the United States would never have been achieved."

Risk assessors had estimated that a "burn through" on the rocket launchers was a one in 35 probability, about the same risk a test pilot expected to face. But there were many other factors which were likely to have caused the tragedy.

He said: "The error was using it like an airliner to take senators and school teachers on trips. The crews should have been restricted to test crews whose job it is to take the risks. The probability of a catastrophic failure of one in 50 could have been expected on that machine."

Mr Alexander said there had been no management failure at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which had achieved its objectives.

## Jail break statements withheld

By Richard Ford

The Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales was criticized by Lord Lowry, Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, yesterday for refusing to hand over statements made by witnesses during his inquiry into the mass break-out of republican prisoners at The Maze jail.

The Director of Public Prosecutions in Northern Ireland is seeking the statements as part of the Crown case against 21 men accused in connection with the escape. A pre-trial application in Belfast was told that both Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, and Sir Michael Heaver, the Attorney General, had been consulted after Sir James Hennessy, the Inspector, refused to hand over the statements which are now with the Inspectorate of Prisons in London.

A Crown lawyer said the statements were wanted as part of the case against 21 alleged escapees of whom 19 are accused of murdering Mr James Ferris, a prison officer, killed during the 1983 escape. He said that Sir James took the view that the statements made to him during his inquiry had been given in confidence, and he was therefore not prepared to release them to the DPP.

Lord Lowry said: "I can see no justification whatever for either the Inspectorate of Prisons or Sir James withholding material from senior law officers. The Crown is indivisible." The trial is due to start on April 28.

## Man accused of child attack

A man accused of the attempted murder of a girl aged two who was rescued from a canal was remanded in custody for eight days yesterday by Old Street magistrates in London.

Robert Patrice, aged 34 and unemployed, of Clarissa Street, Hackney, is also accused of indecently assaulting the girl and her mother in Islington on April 7.

## UN chief to visit China

Peking (AFP) — Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General is to visit China from May 8 to 14, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The last visit to China by the UN Secretary-General was in 1982, UN officials said.

## Labour left set to take over, warns the Alliance

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The Alliance sought to exploit Labour's difficulties yesterday by claiming that after the next election the current centre right majority within the parliamentary party will be replaced by a caucus made up of the hard and soft left.

It also predicted that Labour is heading for a "disaster" in the May 7 council elections and that it could suffer a net loss of seats.

Mr Tony Halmos, deputy national organizer of the SDP, said that whatever the outcome of the next election, for the first time in Labour's history the majority of its MPs would be on the left of the party.

The moderate Parliamentary Labour Party that sustained Labour through three major periods of government since the war... has gone for good. The next election will show whether the people of Britain can stomach the Labour Party that has replaced it," Mr Halmos, a former TUC official and Labour Party member, claimed in the latest issue of *Social Democrat*.

And he predicted that Mr Neil Kinnock's position as party leader will be "highly precarious" as he seeks to reconcile the conflicting views of the various factions.

But senior Labour sources brushed aside this analysis as "pie in the sky" arguing that Mr Halmos had totally misread the balance of power within the party.

Divisions lay not between left and right but between winners and losers. And the "handful" of people hell-bent on destroying Labour's election chances and its ability to govern were heavily outweighed by those on the left and the right committed to unity and victory.

Mr Halmos said that at present the Labour Party is split between 108 centre right MPs, 62 soft left and 39 hard left. Because the left has captured many of the 45 vacancies left by those not standing at the next election, he claims that even if Labour does not add to its Commons strength of 209, the left will be in the ascendancy.

In such an outcome, 72 centre right MPs would be outnumbered by the soft left and 66 to the hard left. Further gains would be at the expense of the relative strength of the centre right within the party.

Meanwhile, Miss Margaret Clay, general secretary of the Association of Liberal Councillors, poured cold water on Labour's forecasts of gains in the council elections.

She said that Labour would not capture Cardiff and Trafford, two councils it has targeted, and challenged it to name the other seven or eight councils where it expects to win control.

## UN trustees urged for Falklands

Dr David Owen yesterday proposed a form of United Nations trusteeship as the way of ending the dispute between Britain and Argentina over the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

Speaking during a visit to Costa Rica, the SDP leader said this would involve both sides abdicating their claims to sovereignty over the islands but offered a way of avoiding "a long and destabilizing deadlock".

The political climate in Argentina was improving. The islanders had to recognize that sooner or later there had to be some sort of relationship with that country.



Mr Harvey Proctor, Conservative MP for Billericay, Essex, appeared in court yesterday charged with four offences of gross indecency with two teenage boys.

During the two-minute appearance before Bow Street magistrates, Mr Proctor, aged 40, of Fulham High Street, west London, was remanded

on unconditional bail and did not speak apart from to reply: "Yes sir", when asked if he understood he had to return to court on May 20.

Sir David Napley, Mr Proctor's lawyer, asked Mr David Hopkin, the magistrate, for time to make further inquiries, and added: "There are various other inquiries to

be made and various other evidence that I am anxious to obtain."

Mr Proctor (above) is charged with three offences of gross indecency with a boy aged 16 to 17, between June 1 and August 31 last year, and one offence involving a youth aged 19 (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

## Health authority

## Tenth manager quits NHS

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A former Army brigadier has just resigned from his £30,000 post as district general manager of a Welsh health authority.

Brigadier John Skinner is the tenth general manager appointed from outside the NHS to leave the service in the past two years.

Earlier this month, Mr Mike King, regional general manager at the East Anglian health authority and a former management consultant, was told that his three-year contract would not be renewed next year.

Brigadier Skinner was also given a three-year contract when he was appointed to the

Gwent authority in March 1985, subject to a review after two years.

Mr Nicholas Headlam, chairman of the Gwent authority, said Brigadier Skinner had resigned after he and the authority had agreed that he should go.

"He has done an extremely good job in terms of organization and method but the job requires an extreme depth of understanding of highly complex professional and other interests in the NHS. We both felt that given the difficulties we should get someone else to carry out the next stage."

It is understood that Brigadier Skinner clashed with

doctors who felt that they were not being consulted.

"Sometimes clinicians feel they should be consulted about hanging a clock on a wall or from the ceiling," Mr Headlam said.

He confirmed that there had been differences of opinion with the authority which were potentially "disastrous".

Brigadier Skinner left his post last weekend and his resignation was officially accepted by the authority this week.

The Institute of Health Services Management said last night that it was not surprising that managers were leaving the health service

## 'Stranded motorist' raped girl

By Ian Smith

Detectives are hunting a man who masquerades as a stranded motorist and has raped two women at knife-point and tried to lure at least 10 others into his car.

Police were only alerted to the existence of the rapist after a girl aged 16 was approached by him as she walked towards her home in Hazel Grove, Manchester, last week.

She was persuaded to help her assailant who claimed his vehicle had broken down, but when she got into his car she was thrown on to the floor and driven to a refuse tip where she was threatened with a knife and raped.

Another woman, aged 24, read of the incident and recognizing that it was similar to the ordeal to which she had been exposed two weeks earlier, contacted police. She told how she too had been abducted, driven to a demolition site and raped at knife-point.

Police set up an incident room and have received calls from 10 other women who told of approaches from a man aged between 28 and 32, who was about 6ft tall with a round, plump face and brown hair either streaked or highlighted. In every case he had used the apparent breakdown of his vehicle, thought to be a dark-coloured Escort or Fiesta, as an excuse to try to entice them into his car.

Detectives believe that many other women may have been approached.

## Hospitals for sale says Hattersley

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The Conservatives will privatize many hospitals if they win the next general election, Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Labour Party, claimed yesterday as he plunged into the increasingly fevered pre-election period.

Insisting that the National Health Service was not safe with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, a charge that Labour is planning to hammer home during the campaign, Mr Hattersley claimed that her "passion for privatization" would drive her inexorably towards selling off hospitals if she won a third term.

Beginning with a reference to the two Conservative MPs who have announced they will not stand again at the next election after making multiple share applications, Mr Hattersley said: "With their passion for privatization as yet unrestrained by recent embarrassments from within the own ranks, who can doubt that another term of Thatcherism would produce the privatization of many of Britain's hospitals — privatization which has already begun with the contracting out of catering, cleaning and laundry and the acceptance of lower standards in all these essential services."

"A Tory victory would result in a stampede towards the kind of health provision which we see in the United States, where the quality of the medical treatment you receive is directly related to the level of health insurance you can afford," he told health workers in Oxford.

But his remarks were bitterly denounced as "grotesque scaremongering" by Mr Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield and a member of the social services select committee.

"The NHS, which everyone respects, is safe in Conservative hands and care as we know it today will remain as it is — free at the point of use for all who need it."

Mr Winterton added that as a long-serving member of the committee, which closely scrutinized health policy, he had heard nothing of the "rumour" Mr Hattersley was putting about. He believed it was devoid of even a "germ of truth" and wanted to know what evidence Labour's deputy leader had for his claims.

Later, sources close to Labour's deputy leader insisted that there was far more to his forecast than idle speculation. They said there were three reasons why Mr Hattersley believed the Conservatives were stealthily advancing towards a system of private medical care.

● Ministers believe that private medicine is superior to that provided by the state and make personal use of it.

● Ministers are intent on breaking the power of public sector trades unions. That, rather than a desire for higher standards, lies behind the contracting out of ancillary services.

● The Government needs a steady flow of funds from privatization proceeds to go on balancing the books over the next five years. It would seek to realize the "massive capital resources" locked up in the nation's hospitals.

## Chicken Lib 'scare' tactics

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

An animal welfare group was accused yesterday of "irresponsible scaremongering" in suggesting that chickens were a cause of salmonella poisoning.

Chicken's Lib, which is based in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, has produced a video film which is critical of the intensive system by which most broiler fowl are reared in Britain.

It claims not only that the

system is cruel to the birds, but that they are also liable to contract diseases which may be passed on to humans.

But the British Chicken Information Service rejected the claim that four out of five chickens were "infected" by salmonella. It was not an infection and could be found in all meat, dairy products and fish, it said.

If a chicken contained

salmonella, it was only at extremely low levels and, if the food was properly cooked, it was killed off.

But Miss Clare Druce, of Chicken's Lib, said yesterday that, although it was true that salmonella was destroyed by proper cooking, there was still a considerable risk among old people and in institutions, where hygiene needs were either not properly understood or were ignored.

Ministers believe that private medicine is superior to that provided by the state and make personal use of it.

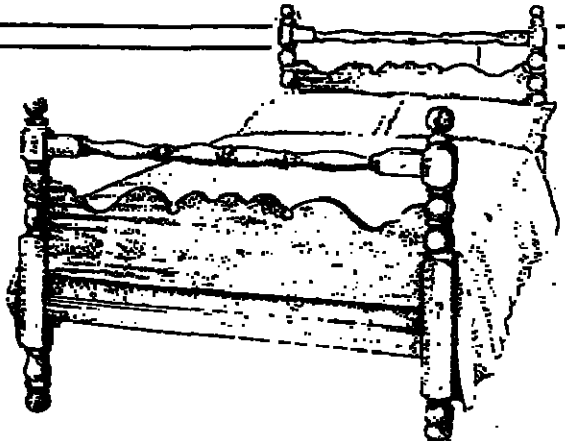
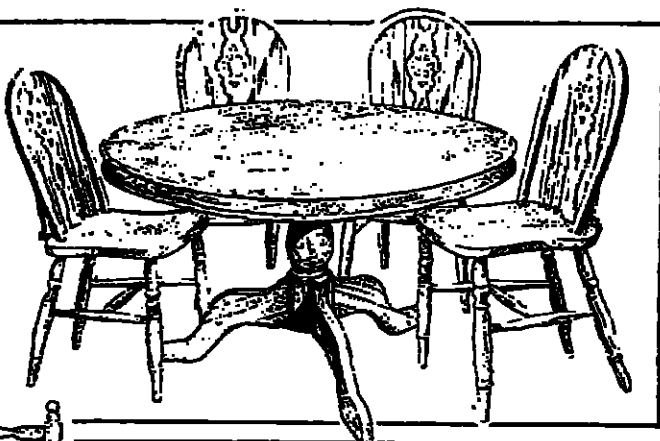
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THW 41



# Maximum fine for the BBC over TV death plunge stunt

The BBC was fined the maximum penalty of £2,000 and ordered to pay £4,431 costs yesterday for failing to take adequate safety precautions for a television stunt which killed a volunteer.

Although it used quality equipment it failed to "double up" on everything and did not take basic safety precautions, Mr Maurice Pallister, on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive, told magistrates at Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

Mr Michael Lush, aged 25, an unemployed hod carrier, of Hobb Lane, Hedge End, near Southampton, fell 120ft to his death from a box suspended by a crane at a yard at Long Crendon, Buckinghamshire, last November 13.

He was taking part in the first rehearsal for a stunt to be shown live on Noel Edmonds' *Late, Late Breakfast Show*.

The BBC admitted contravening the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

After Mr Pallister outlined the circumstances of the accident, the magistrates adjourned for 45 minutes to consider whether they should deal with the case with a maximum fine of £2,000 or send it for trial at crown court, where there is an unlimited penalty. They decided to hear the case.

Mr Pallister said the BBC's visual effects designer who made the box for the stunt "had taken a high standard of safety and doubled that to ensure it was doubly safe".

But he highlighted other shortcomings which led to the death.

Mr David Nicholson, the programme's producer, had discussed the stunt only by telephone with the BBC's

safety officer and the safety officer was not present at the rehearsal, Mr Pallister said.

The BBC had engaged an escapologist, Mr Paul Matthews, as Mr Lush's trainer, but his experience was restricted to theatrical tricks and he had not performed the stunt being asked of Mr Lush, a jump involving an elastic bungee rope.

"There were a number of basic misconceptions", Mr Pallister said.

Mr Lush was a hod carrier and as such was considered a person who was used to working at heights. "But the normal sort of height at which a hod carrier works is 20-25 feet."

Mr Pallister said there was no safety line to break Mr Lush's fall had he accidentally slipped from the box during the ascent.

There should have been a detailed "risk assessment" of the stunt which would have identified its most dangerous aspects and led to a safety check, procedure being adopted.

Mr Pallister said he had been told by stunt experts that to devise a new stunt such as this would have taken weeks and that rehearsals, even for a professional, would probably have taken weeks rather than days.

But, above all, the professionals would have referred the stunt to the use of airbags, he said.

"I am assured by the professionals that no professional would perform any stunt as a rehearsal and in most cases no stunt without the use of an airbag."

Mr Pallister said Mr Lush's rate of descent would have

been about 60mph and his equivalent weight as he hit the ground would have been two tons. An airbag, 25ft long, 18ft wide and 10ft 6in high would have been required.

"While we could not say anyone using an airbag would not be injured, we can say an airbag is the best known means of preventing any injuries and is probably the greatest form of reassurance to professionals."

Mr David Eady, for the BBC, said: "The corporation recognizes that the tragic waste of this young man's life simply should not have occurred."

"The board of governors and the programme team deeply regret his loss and are only too conscious of their responsibility in the matter."

He said the chairman of the governors had written to the coroner after the inquest confirming that the lessons of the tragedy "had been fully taken to heart".

But he added: "The team who were working on behalf of the BBC in the preparation of the programme genuinely believed they had taken every precaution that was necessary."

However, he conceded that "undoubtedly there were serious errors of judgement", adding that these were not due to "penny-pinching or budget restraints".

He said the BBC had undertaken a thorough review of its safety rules and procedures and wide-ranging recommendations were to be submitted to the governors.

Since the accident, the corporation's production staff were being given lectures on safety.

## 17th century handiwork left its mark on palace

By Christopher Warman  
Property Correspondent

Hand prints made by seveneenth century workmen have been found behind panelling at Hampton Court Palace, which was severely damaged by fire last Easter.

Builders working in the

small oak room off Fountain Court, built by Sir Christopher Wren, have also found drawings and plans on hidden plaster.

Mr Michael Fishlock, (above), architect in charge of the restoration, speculated that one of Wren's craftsmen had made an imprint in the

plaster, encouraging his fellows to do the same.

"As far as we know the panelling has not been removed since it was fixed in Wren's time."

The Wren building is still shrouded in scaffolding and covers to hide the continuing work, begun the day after the

fire in which Lady Gale, one of the residents of the private apartments above the state rooms, died.

The main work has been drying out the building after millions of gallons of water were poured in by firemen.

In addition the building has been made safe by removing

dangerous fire-damaged roof trusses and floor beams.

Mr Fishlock said the building was now stable and most of the state rooms could be totally restored. The whole programme is estimated to cost £7 million and the work should be completed by 1991.

(Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

## Mother's Aids death blamed on mystery donor

A family was infected with Aids virus and a mother died of the disease after a blood transfusion from a donor who has not been traced, the Tyneside coroner was told in Newcastle upon Tyne yesterday.

Mrs Mandy Wray, aged 21, probably caught Aids from a blood transfusion five years ago, before screening was introduced, while giving birth to

her first child, Andrew, Mr Patrick Cuff, the coroner, said.

The child does not have the virus but Mrs Wray's husband, Jon, and the couple's son, John, aged two, are infected and are having regular hospital checks.

After the inquest, Mr Wray said: "I am satisfied with the outcome. It probably was all down to this mystery donor. But obviously we will never

know for certain and there will always be a big question mark."

The hearing had been told by Dr Michael Snow, consultant physician at Newcastle General Hospital, that the suspect blood was made up of batches from two donors.

He said one had been traced and cleared but the other had vanished. "There are no other admitted risk factors other

than patient's blood transfusion which is the more likely route of the infection."

But it was a balance of probabilities without testing the other donor, who was untraceable, Dr Snow said.

Recording a misadventure verdict, Mr Cuff said: "On balance I think the infection was acquired through the risk donor who cannot be traced."

Mr Wray, aged 31, an

unemployed van driver, of Holystone Crescent, Heaton, Newcastle, told the inquest that his wife whom he married in 1984, had been a healthy girl who loved sports.

But she developed a throat infection which sent her weight plummeting from eight to under six stones because she could not eat.

She was admitted to the hospital in September 1986

### Child abuse inquiry

## 'Teachers' warning ignored'

By Ian Smith

The report of an inquiry into allegations that teachers were ignored when they complained about a headmaster who sexually abused mentally handicapped pupils, will be presented to Salford council next month.

Derek Harle, aged 52, the former headmaster of a special school, was jailed for two years for subjecting two girl pupils, aged 12 and 13, to sexual abuse. Subsequently a six-day private hearing has taken evidence from teachers, parents and Salford education officials.

The inquiry was told that two previous complaints about the headmaster's conduct had not been investigated.

Staff were allegedly given instructions, by an education department official, not to co-operate in the police investigation.

The education psychologist who initially brought the matter to police attention was abruptly taken off the case, and an attempt was made by a woman teacher to persuade one of the young victims to change her story.

The inquiry, led by Mr Benet Hytner, QC, was set up by Salford education committee after publication of the allegations in the *Manchester Evening News*.

As the inquiry proceeded Mr Hytner described the

newspaper allegations as "dynamite — a bomb ticking under the council waiting for the court case to finish".

He said: "The first thing that it seems to me would have occurred to anyone is to ask 'Is this true?' If it is true it's appalling, if it's not true they are going to defame us."

Salford councillors will consider the inquiry report at their meeting next month.

Mrs Maureen Lea, chairman of Salford education committee, which ordered the inquiry, said yesterday that Mr Hytner's report would be forwarded to every member of the council as a matter of urgency.

## Fun and games at the Commons

By Martin Fletcher  
Political Reporter

MPs, it seems, are to be allowed to gamble at the Commons.

Moreover, they are to be allowed to play anything from poker to mah-jong in a room at the Palace of Westminster which, since the nineteenth century, has been reserved exclusively for chess.

These startling reforms are disclosed in the minutes, published yesterday, of a meeting of the services committee, the august body which administers the Commons and which is chaired by Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House.

Faced with a diminishing number of MPs with either the time or inclination for chess, the committee agreed that the so-called chess room should be thrown open for any board or card game for an experimental period up to Christmas.

It was not a decision taken lightly. The matter was first considered by the accommodation and administration sub-committee. It was then passed to the services committee, which held a long debate and several votes on the issue.

One of these votes was on an amendment proposed by Mr Andrew Fanks, the Labour MP for Warley East and a former actor, which would have forbidden gambling. This, according to the minutes, was "negatived", thereby apparently overturning an age-old convention forbidding the playing of "games of chance" for money within the palace precincts.

Clearly in a reckless frame of mind, the committee also brushed aside the original suggestions of Mr John Sillis, the former Labour minister, that the experiment should be restricted to Wednesdays, and that bridge should be the only game allowed in the chess room.

Mr Robert Rhodes James — scholar, former senior clerk to the Commons and now Conservative MP for Cambridge — is understood to have fought a lone and ultimately unsuccessful rearguard action against this sweeping tide of reform.

### Drug boat

Rio de Janeiro (Reuter) — The United States is donating an \$8 million (£4.85 million) boat to Brazil for the fight against drug smugglers along the Amazon River, the federal police chief, Senhor Romeu Tuma, said.

## Heysel warrants attacked

By Ian Smith and Roger Boyes in Rome

Arrest warrants issued by the Italian authorities for the 26 football supporters allegedly involved in the Heysel stadium deaths were criticized yesterday.

Solicitors acting for the Liverpool supporters were divided in their judgement as to the legality of the Italian move, but united in their condemnation of what they regard as a scare tactic.

Mr Rex Makin, of Liverpool, who represents three of the accused, said: "The Italians are absolutely stupid; this is spaghetti bolognese. The charges they are proposing are devoid of common sense, rationale or any basis for correct legal action."

It is understood that the public prosecutor in Italy will not try to extradite the accused supporters on charges of grievous bodily harm or manslaughter until Belgium has eliminated all legal possibilities of putting them on trial.

The High Court in London blocked extradition of the supporters earlier this week because incorrect legal procedures were followed.

The Italian warrants, announced by Signor Alfredo Rossini, the deputy public prosecutor, mean in effect that the supporters would be arrested if they trod on Italian soil. Extradition is more complicated, although a treaty was signed in 1973.

Belgium is expected to reformulate its extradition request. The Italian police will conduct their own inquiries.

## Ferry disaster wife loses her baby

A second tragedy has hit the family of a young victim of the Zebrugge ferry disaster.

As the funeral took place yesterday of Lance Bombardier Wayne Davies, aged 25, his family said that after the identification of his body, his widow Debbie had lost the baby she was expecting.

As colleagues from the 49th Field Regiment bore his coffin into the God is Love chapel in Standard Street, Trethomas, Mid Glamorgan, his mother, Mrs Jean Davies, said: "Wayne's death has hit Debbie particularly hard."

"After he was positively identified at the weekend, Debbie lost the baby because of the shock."

The couple's other child, Gareth, aged three, is being cared for by her parents.

The soldier was on board the Herald of Free Enterprise because his regiment gave him two extra days at the start of his three weeks' leave from Lipschitz, West Germany, so he could have more time with his wife, then four months pregnant.

● Beverly Taylor, aged 26, and her fiancé Peter Hilling, aged 47, who both died on the ferry and who should have married in Swindon tomorrow, will share the same grave.

Beverly, who was travelling to Swindon with Peter for a family funeral will be buried in her cream silk wedding dress.

● Nineteen more victims of the disaster were identified at inquests opened in Dover yesterday, bringing the total of inquests opened so far to 169.

Four more bodies are being held in Zebrugge. Three of

those are likely to be identified soon.

All the inquests opened yesterday were provisionally adjourned until May 19.

Cause of death in each case was given as drowning.

The victims named yesterday were: Christopher Lawrence, 49, a lorry driver, of Padham Road, Burnley, Lancashire; Andrew Fox, 11, and his step-sister Sharon Delfield, 17, both of Boxley Road, Maidstone, Kent; Peter Hilling, 47, of Darmsdadt, West Germany, and his fiancée Miss Beverly Taylor, 26, born in Swindon, who was working in West Germany.

Ferry steward Percy Calder, 45, of The Glade, Sholden, Deal, Kent; ferry steward Nicholas Gough, 19, of Thirskers Gardens, Aylesham, Dover; Miss Brenda Lamb, 31, of Melbury Gardens, Raynes Park, south-west London; Roy Finnegan, 41, of Perth Road, north London; ferry steward Ian Lawson, 24, of Eaton Road, Dover; ferry storeman Lee Birles, 38, of Crabble Road, Dover.

Ferry senior barman Terence Frame, 34, of St Martin's Road, Deal, Kent; Martin Spooner, 30, of Lea Road, Enfield; Francis Gaillard, 26, of Clifton Hill, St John's Wood, north London; Edward Johnson, 17, student, of Crispin Road, Milton Keynes; Robert Boatwright, 35, of Hamilton Road, Lower Feltham, Middlesex.

Andrew Dockrill, 8, of Bramley, Stanford Le Hope, Essex; Simon Perkins, 18, of Linley Drive, Hastings, East Sussex; John Seely, 61, self-employed builder, of Lullingstone Avenue, Swanley, Kent.

● The Channel ferry disaster fund which has received gifts of jewellery and a painting for auction as well as cash, has reached £3,614,000. It has paid out £650,000.

## Manual workers still demand cash

By Edward Townsend  
Industrial Correspondent

A third of working people still receive their pay in cash, with blue collar workers being most resistant to change, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

In a survey of cashless pay, the CBI said that manual workers were still in the rearguard of the movement towards account holding, and as a result Britain lags behind its international competitors.

The employers' organization said working class society was still gripped by a male fear of wives learning how much their men earn and a general suspicion of banks.

Of an estimated 5.5 million workers without bank current accounts, 4.5 million, or 84 per cent, are blue collar workers, although some have building society accounts.

Mr Richard Price, director of employment affairs for the CBI, said that 34 per cent of

employees were still receiving wages in cash, although this was likely to fall because of reforms in the Wages Act passed earlier this year.

In 1981, 44 per cent of people were paid in cash, compared with 78 per cent in 1969. There has also been a big switch from weekly to monthly pay.

The CBI said that the swing would aid Britain's efficiency.

Mr Price said: "It is not all plain sailing for firms who

want to switch. Sometimes there is resistance from employees who say they are worried by the cost of bank charges and by the inconvenience of banking hours.

He said: "Cashless pay not only provides greater security against the payroll bandits and muggers. It can also be introduced for industrial relations reasons as part of a wider move to harmonize terms and conditions of staff and manual workers."



## PAVAROTTI: I think the reason 'Aida' is a great opera is because it's complete, in our region we say it is like the pig, 'Aida' is like a pig, you don't throw anything away. It's popular, very philosophical, even a little rude...

BRAGG: *La Scala* in 1870 was where the young Verdi's first opera was performed and was the place he turned to for the premieres of his last great works. How important do you think *La Scala* is today?

PAVAROTTI: I think *La Scala* and the Met are the two most important theatres in the world, even now, very, very important for singer and for conductor...

BRAGG: *The judgement scene in Act 4 of 'Aida' is the high point of the opera...*

PAVAROTTI: I think that scene from the dramatic point of view, specially when Radames leaves the stage, and he faces the high priest, it becomes the strongest part, because then you see a woman try to send a man who she loves to death, and now she wants this man back, so strongly it is another aspect of love, desperation, love in desperation...

BRAGG: *Verdi said that in the last scene of the opera, I'm quoting from him, that he wanted to eliminate the usual agony. He wrote: 'I'd like something sweet, a very brief duet, a farewell to life.' Can you tell us about that final duet?*

PAVAROTTI: The final duet demands a voice like mine, a very lyric voice, *molto duttile* elastic, and a lot of courage, to be able to make the pianissimo, the B flat, the last two B flats piano, like they are dying.



# PAVAROTTI TALKS

'THE AIDA FILE'

TONIGHT AT 10:15PM

# PAVAROTTI SINGS

VERDI'S 'AIDA'

SUNDAY AT 10:00PM

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## Staff crisis may force police to shed duties

By Craig Seton

Mr Geoffrey Dear, chief constable of the West Midlands, issued a warning yesterday that his force, faced with insufficient manpower, might have to abandon some traditional areas of policing to tackle rising crime.

He is considering Gallup-style opinion polls to assess reaction to the prospect that police investigations into petty thefts from homes and cars and police handling of found property and stray dogs might have to be shed.

Mr Dear said the crisis could overcome the force within four years.

In his annual report, published yesterday, the chief constable said: "No matter how skilfully we address the problem of wringing more and more operational time out of officers, the sponge must eventually run dry. There is clearly a limit as to what can be done in the future."

"If the demand for our services continues to grow, then we are fast approaching a position where we have to

make one of two choices. "Either we continue our present range of services, but at a more and more superficial level, or we shed some of the tasks which have for so many years been accepted as an integral part of the police service to the public. Both courses are unpalatable."

Crime in the West Midlands increased by more than 10 per cent last year. For the first time the number of recorded offences exceeded 250,000.

Mr Dear unsuccessfully appealed to the Home Office in February for an extra 1,000 officers over the next three years. He has been allowed to recruit only 427 outside staff, releasing 380 officers for operational duties.

He said that potential public disorder posed an increasing burden on the force when large numbers of officers had to be deployed on stand-by. On those occasions some petty offences took second place.

Pre-emptive action by the police had prevented three potential outbreaks of rioting,



Arthur Keep and Harry Griffin met for the first time yesterday since the Second World War in the Fairey Albacore aircraft in which they were shot down over Norway. Mr Keep, then a midshipman, and Mr Griffin, then a leading seaman, met at the Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovil, Somerset, where the restored biplane is on display (Photograph: Alain Lockyer).

## Call for guidance on bail in sex cases

An MP has called for new guidelines on remands to be issued to courts after public concern about a man who was allowed bail while accused of a number of sex offences against young children.

Mr David Lightbown, Conservative MP for Staffordshire South East, asked Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, to take action after the prosecution did not oppose bail when the man appeared before magistrates at Tamworth, Staffordshire.

Mr Lightbown, who received protests from outraged parents, said he was not criticizing the bench but was amazed that the prosecution had not sought a remand in custody.

He believed that anyone

facing such charges should always be remanded in custody for the sake of children's safety and community peace of mind.

He had told the Lord Chancellor of his "alarm and horror" that his constituents should have seen someone charged with sex offences against children being at large.

A spokesman for the crown

prosecution service said he could not comment as it was a "live" case.

Mr Alec Gibson, chairman of Tamworth magistrates, said there was no information to suggest that at any time had there been a departure from the established criteria.

The man has since been committed in custody for crown court trial.

## Industry loses as finance lures top graduates

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Fewer Cambridge graduates are going into manufacturing industry, according to the university's careers service.

It says that industry will find it increasingly hard to get the best graduates from top universities.

In its report on choices made by graduates in 1986, the careers service comments: "The sad fact is that pay and conditions are often significantly better in other fields — the financial sector, strategic management consultancy and accountancy most notably — and as the total pool of graduates falls, as it is doing nationally, competitive market forces will inevitably draw people into these fields rather than into manufacturing industry."

Thirteen per cent of Cambridge graduates went into industry in 1986, compared with 15 per cent in 1985. For manufacturing industry, the proportion dropped even further from 11 per cent to 7 per cent.

The proportion of graduates (5 per cent) going straight into the City has stayed the same "in spite of sometimes frenzied efforts by City employers to recruit new graduates following the Big Bang".

The careers service points out that undergraduates are concerned about the degree of responsibility they will have in a new job, the quality of training and their future prospects.

There was a "dramatic increase" in the number of graduates joining management consultancy firms.

Although numbers are small, with 39 graduates going into the field (28 in 1985), it is the fastest growing area and seven of the 26 graduates in production engineering opted for management consultancy instead of manufacturing.

The decline in teaching as a chosen career seems to have halted, but 51 older graduates asked for advice on getting out of the profession, compared with 50 in 1985. Six per cent of Cambridge graduates were still unemployed at the end of the calendar year, the same proportion as in 1985.

● Liverpool University is about to win a £60,000 contract to take part in a project to build a new generation of ultra-fast computers costing less than a tenth of today's models.

The money will come from the three-year, £7.7 million EEC Esprit project which aims to build a "supercomputer" from hundreds of transputers, the "computers on a chip" developed by Immos, of Bristol.

## Coroner in clash over death crash

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The crown prosecution service proposes to take no further action over a driving case in which it was criticized by a coroner.

Dr David Paul, the Hornsey coroner, suggested on Tuesday that papers concerning a man who was involved in a fatal accident while driving at 63mph in an area with a 40mph speed limit should be returned to the service, which had decided to take no action.

Dr Paul said: "I don't understand and will never understand decisions made by the crown prosecution service but I suggest those papers be sent back."

The service is known to be surprised and irritated by what it regards as unsubstantiated and ill-informed comment.

The serious nature of the possible charge against the driver meant that the case was considered by a senior lawyer in the service, although it was not considered a border-line matter. The evidence was

regarded as falling well short of establishing recklessness.

Dr Paul made his comments after hearing how Giuseppe Sabini, aged 74, of Gillespie Road, Highbury, died after the accident on the Great Cambridge Road on June 7.

Andrew Foley, a witness of Wisbech Road, King's Lynn, said: "All of a sudden a figure ran straight into the road in front of a car. The car didn't have a chance."

PC Colin Spencer, an accident investigations officer, said the driver would have had to be travelling at 30 mph or less to have been able to stop.

The driver was John James Dawkins, aged 25, of Clayton Avenue, Wembley. Police said that no proceedings were pending against him as the papers which had been submitted to the prosecution service were sent back marked "no".

Dr Paul recorded a verdict of accidental death.

## Greenham protesters buy camp

Nuclear protesters at Greenham Common were celebrating yesterday after winning a land auction which gives them a safe haven from police and the Ministry of Defence.

The plot is just yards from the cruise missile base's top-secret complex in Newbury, Berkshire.

Supporters of the Campaign against Nuclear Disarmament and women from all over Britain have been paying into a fund in an attempt to raise enough money to buy a three-quarter acre patch of land which was for sale in Brackenbury Lane. The lane leads directly to the bunkers where the 56 US cruise missiles are stored.

The women announced yesterday that they have raised the £3,250 needed to buy the scrubland. Now they can set up their tents and shelters there.

Ever since setting up their camp outside the base in September 1981 the women have been subjected to swoops by bailiffs.

## Miners go for gold in the US

Redundant tin miners are hoping to join a new gold rush to the United States.

Dozens of men from Cornish tin mines, which closed last year leaving more than 800 jobless, are queuing to join a new gold, silver and copper exploration at the Gingerbread mine in Crescent Park, Nevada.

Mr Walter Fuller, who owns the mine, flew to Britain and placed an advertisement for hardrock miners in a Cornish newspaper.

Only a few men would be recruited at first but more jobs would follow if the mine were successful, he told Jobcentre staff. Applicants would have their fares paid.

A spokesman at Geovore tin mine said: "It is history repeating itself. For more than a hundred years Cornishmen have left these shores to explore mines throughout the world."

The Camborne Jobcentre said that most men laid off in last year's collapse of the tin mining industry in Cornwall were still out of work.

## Lamb prices rise sharply for Easter

Lamb is an Easter tradition in many families, although it will still be some time before new season home-produced supplies arrive in the shops.

Prices rose sharply this week in expectation of strong demand. Whole leg may cost up to £3.30 per lb in the South-east, although the national average is about £2.10. Shoulder is also up from £1.13 to £1.27 per lb, but New Zealand prices are steady at £1.49 for leg, 84p for shoulder and £1.51 for loin chops.

Most fishmongers will be open today and supplies are generally excellent. The average for cod is about £1.94 per lb, with haddock at £1.97, whiting £1.50, plaice £2.09 and coley £1.08.

Salad ingredients, such as beetroot at 12p-20p per lb, celery 35p-55p per head and cucumbers 40p-70p each, are becoming plentiful.

The best vegetable buys are still winter cabbage at 12p-20p per lb, broccoli 45p-70p, car-

rots 15p-20p and cauliflowers. Natural rhubarb is 15p-25p per lb. Spanish or Israeli strawberries are between 50p-85p a half-pound punnet. Best apple buys are Cape golden delicious, 45p-50p per lb, granny smiths from Chile at 35p-45p and New Zealand coxes 45p-55p. Bananas are 40p-55p per lb, grapes 65p-95p, oranges 8p-20p each and pineapples from 70p-£2.50.

Good buys from shops and supermarkets this week: Presto — beef topside and silverside £1.78 per lb, frozen turkeys 5lb-5.5lb £3.64 each; Dewhurst — Dewfresh turkeys and ducklings 79p per lb; Asda — home produced rib of beef, £1.35 per lb, fresh corned chicken, 74p per lb; Bejam — topside and silverside roasting joint, £1.79 per lb; Matthews self-raising turkeys, 59p per lb; Tesco — British pork chops, £1.18 per lb, part-boned chicken breast (pack of two) £1.69; Sainsbury — Grade A turkeys, with giblets, 56p per lb.

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## WORLD SUMMARY

## Curb on sales of missile know-how

Britain and six other nations yesterday announced controls to prevent emerging nuclear-capable countries from buying missile technology (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

Canada, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States joined Britain in implementing identical rules to limit sales of missile technology and equipment.

The controls were prompted by fears that at least five other countries are now in a position, at least on paper, to build highly accurate missiles. The Non-Proliferation Treaty dealing with the spread of nuclear warheads was found inadequate to cover missile systems.

China and India already have advanced missile technology, but could benefit greatly from Western guidance systems. South Africa, Pakistan and Israel have a capability to make the warheads and may already have them.

## Regan 'a scapegoat'

Washington — Mr Donald Regan, right, the ousted White House Chief of Staff, claims that he was dismissed because he was the "obvious target" of people who wanted a scapegoat for the Iran-Contra scandal (Christopher Thomas writes).

In his first public comments since leaving the White House seven weeks ago, he said in Denver that "final judgment will have to be suspended on who the actual scapegoats should be". He refused to go into details of the scandal because he did not want to damage sales of his forthcoming book. Mr Regan said that Washington could be an interesting town but it could also be very cruel. "Whatever you do is magnified, particularly whatever you do wrong."



## Sri Lanka trainers

Colombo (Reuters) — A British minister confirmed yesterday for the first time that former British soldiers were training Sri Lankan security forces fighting Tamil guerrillas.

Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, said about 20 ex-servicemen were on the island working for the security company Keeney Meeney Services (KMS). He insisted, however, they were not mercenaries.

KMS men have been training a police commando unit in anti-guerrilla warfare for about two years.

## Warhol inquiry

New York (Reuters) — The New York City medical examiner yesterday called for a criminal investigation of the death of Andy Warhol, the pop artist, in a local hospital in February.

Mr Elliot Gross said an indeterminate but significant amount of time had elapsed between Warhol's heart attack and the notification to doctors. Warhol's hospital chart also did not adequately reflect his condition, he said. Warhol died after a gall bladder operation. New York Hospital has denied wrongdoing in caring for him.

## Contra shake-up crisis

Washington — The threatened resignation of Señor Alfonso Robelo from the leadership of the Nicaraguan Contras has dismayed Reagan Administration officials struggling to persuade Congress not to cut off funding to the fighters (Christopher Thomas writes).

Señor Robelo has said he will quit the United Nicaraguan Opposition because he does not like the way it is being restructured. He fears it will be dominated by the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, the main armed group formed by the Central Intelligence Agency five years ago.

A group called the Nicaraguan Democratic Resistance is being established, with seven directors instead of three.

## Vietnam reforms

Bangkok (Reuters) — Ho Chi Minh City, the centre of economic reform in Vietnam, has given factory managers new powers to boost production, borrow funds abroad and even hire exiled Vietnamese as business consultants.

The Vietnam News Agency said state-run enterprises in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, could launch joint ventures with foreign companies and import new equipment and technology.

## Woman executed

Hong Kong (Reuters) — China has executed a woman who set off a hand-grenade in a crowded restaurant last month injuring 18 people, including two New Zealand tourists, the pro-Peking Wen Wei Po newspaper reported yesterday.

Mrs Wan Xiangping exploded the grenade at a railway station restaurant in an apparent suicide bid after her husband asked for a divorce, the paper said.

## Nato looks closely at political price tags on arms reduction packages

## Whitehall keeping its options open over offer from Gorbachov

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Government has not yet decided which way to jump on Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's offer to scrap shorter-range missiles in Europe.

Officials returning from Brussels yesterday showed great caution in avoiding showing a preference for any of the three main courses of action.

The options are to accept, to refuse while insisting on a previous American proposal, or to come up with a completely new suggestion.

Some military sources favoured the American draft agreement which would freeze Soviet shorter-range missiles at present levels while giving Washington the right to match them.

The high political cost of refusing Mr Gorbachov's offer was sensed immediately.

No one relished the job of explaining to the public that Nato might prefer to build its

own missiles to match the Soviet shorter-range SS12s, SS22s and SS23s rather than see them go.

The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, put the issue starkly by saying that it was no use holding out for that option unless it could be made politically credible.

If Nato chose the "right to match" option it would have to convince Moscow that the public would support it.

Military and civilian Nato experts are to prepare an assessment of the balance of advantage. The sources said some officials thought that this could be ready by the end of the month.

An intense debate over the possible effects on the strategy of flexible response seems likely to take longer to resolve.

Some argue that Mr Gorbachov's proposal would have no effect. They point out that

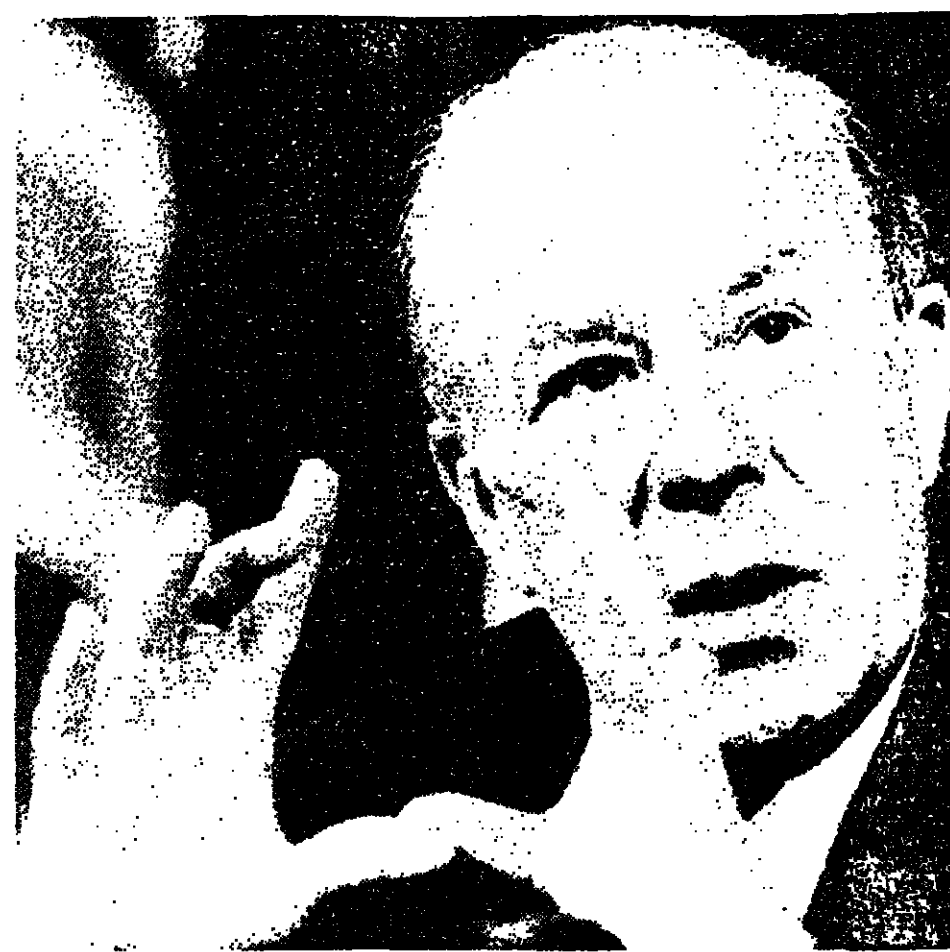
in 1981, Nato proposed that all medium-range (LRINF) weapons should be removed from Europe and that talks should be held on reducing short-range missiles and battlefield weapons.

If in 1981 it was thought that flexible response could be maintained without medium or shorter-range missiles, the same should be true now.

The counter-argument, held by some but not all military factions, is that in 1981 flexible response was deficient in some respects.

The deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles (LRINF weapons) not only countered the threat from the SS20s, but also enhanced flexible response.

It is this line of thought that leads part of the Nato military to want to match the shorter-range SS12s, SS22s and SS23s rather than see them go.



Mr Shultz speaking at a news conference in Brussels yesterday after briefing Nato foreign ministers on his talks this week in Moscow and the latest Soviet offer on arms reduction.

## Howe says swift Soviet hand could deceive West's eye

From Richard Owen, Brussels

From Nato's point of view, the latest Gorbachov arms control offer, which has caused such disarray, is the end result of what Sir Geoffrey Howe yesterday called the West's determination to get through "a formidable Soviet obstacle course".

This ranged from refusal to talk at all, to Mr Gorbachov's indecision over whether INF was or was not linked to Star Wars, a linkage which "has come and gone over the months like the smile of the Cheshire Cat".

Sir Geoffrey warned that "the

apparent swiftness of the Soviet hand could deceive the Western eye". Europe had to "stand back from the heat of negotiation" to consider the harsh facts of life, including Russia's geographical threat to Europe and its advantages in conventional forces and chemical weapons.

On the other hand, Mr Gorbachov has trumped the Nato alliance down confusion by not merely conceding Nato's demands but going further than Nato ever dreamed — including the abolition of all long-range INF, short-range INF and tactical battlefield weapons.

Yesterday diplomats were expressing the fear that, if Nato accepted the Gorbachov offer, the alliance would be forced to re-examine the very principles of its existence, including the basic doctrine of "flexible response" under which Nato has a graded nuclear response to any possible attack.

The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, sought to assure the allies that, even if both medium and shorter-range missiles were removed, there would be "no de-militarization" of Europe, because the flexible response was also based on the American strategic umbrella, aircraft-based systems and sub-

marine-launched missiles. "Certain elements of a nuclear capability" would be maintained in Europe whether Moscow's offer was accepted or not, he said.

Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, said conventional imbalances and chemical weapons had to be taken into account.

Sir Geoffrey denied that because of the approaching Presidential campaign in America Washington was pushing for a deal faster than the Europeans wanted. Diplomats warned, however, that Mr Gorbachov's aim was to de-couple the Western Alliance by exploiting Western

political factors and sowing dissension within Nato.

Unwittingly or not, Mr Shultz himself aroused suspicion that the Russians might want British and French missiles included in a deal by remarking that although Washington had not been willing to include them in any way, there had been "lengthy discussions" about them in Moscow. Sir Geoffrey said that although the Russians may have raised the issue with Mr Shultz, the Nato position had not changed.

One of Nato's main problems will be how to formulate a response which does not appear too negative to Western public opinion.

## US hoping for accord by autumn

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan and his senior advisers are expressing growing confidence that an agreement to remove medium-range missiles from Europe can be concluded by the autumn.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, flew to California last night to report personally to Mr Reagan, who is on holiday there.

Mr Edward Rowny, a senior arms adviser to the President, yesterday predicted that a US-Soviet summit meeting to sign a Euro-missile accord was possible later this year.

Mr Howard Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, said he was optimistic that "we have an historic opportunity to get meaningful arms control agreements". He was also optimistic about the prospects of a Reagan-Gorbachov meeting this year.

President Reagan said on Wednesday night that the Moscow talks held promise for an agreement on medium-range forces in the "not too distant future".

Mr Reagan returns to Washington on Monday, when he will review detailed instructions to American negotiators who resume intermediate-range missile talks in Geneva on April 23. A bipartisan consensus is clearly building up on Capitol Hill behind the Administration's handling of the Euro-missile negotiations.



## Reinhold Messner and his Rolex continue to survive where survival seems impossible.

Ask any climber his nomination for the greatest living mountaineer in the world, and almost inevitably he will answer "Reinhold Messner."

Reinhold Messner climbs "by fair means": without oxygen equipment; without pitons; without porters.

"These days technology has overtaken the climbing," says Messner. "I want to climb with my strength, with my fears, with my senses."

Messner was the first to climb Mount Everest without oxygen. Completely alone he conquered Nanga Parbat.

He climbed K2, the second highest mountain in the world. And, accompanied by Michael Dacher and a small expedition, this was achieved in record time.

In 1980 Reinhold Messner risked "madness" as some called it: the ascent of the north face of Everest from Tibet.

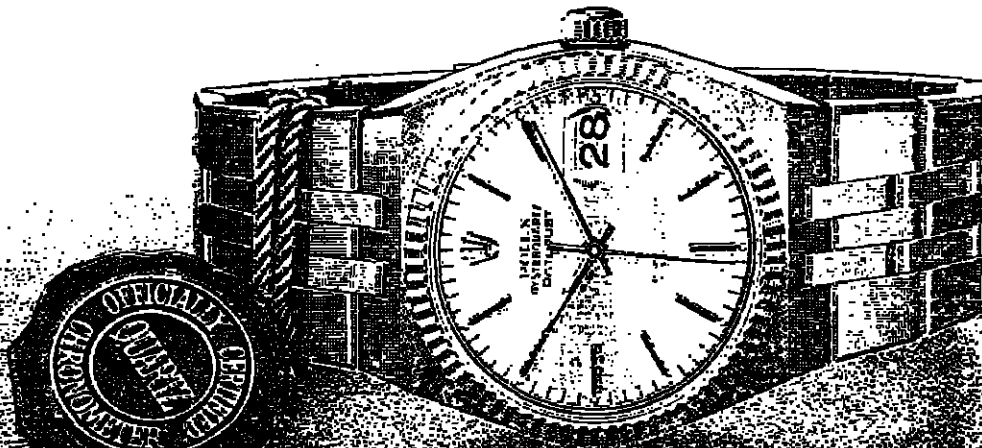
Completely alone, during the adverse weather conditions of the monsoon season, Messner climbed for days at altitudes known to mountaineers as the death zone. Without oxygen equipment; without a partner; without native porters; without the possibility of rescue.

But one piece of equipment Messner never climbs without is his Rolex Oysterquartz.

"To be up there without a precise and absolutely reliable watch would be madness," says Messner. "My Rolex is my life insurance. When to make camp; my rest period at the peak; the night-time decampment, all have to be timed precisely."

"For me there is no better watch." At 8,848 metres; at -40 degrees below zero; and even without extra oxygen, Reinhold Messner and his Rolex both function perfectly.

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## Lebanon hostage anniversary

## Silence over kidnap Briton

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

A year ago today a British journalist, Mr John McCarthy, was on his way to Beirut airport to leave Lebanon when his car was intercepted. He has not been seen since.

The same day two other Britons were found dead in Beirut, killed in reprisal for Britain's role in the American bombing of Tripoli.

Efforts by his family and friends have failed to establish whether Mr McCarthy is alive. Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, believed he had a lead, but the trail disappeared with him in west Beirut on January 20.

Mr McCarthy's fiancée, Miss Jill Morrell, aged 29, a script writer, believes he is alive and has campaigned to ensure that he is not forgotten.

She told *The Times* she yearns for some evidence, however slender, to support her conviction. "The worst thing is this terrible silence. If only some group would confirm they are holding him."

His mother, Mrs Sheila McCarthy, has recorded a television appeal to be broadcast by Lebanese television today. Three earlier broadcasts went unanswered.

At Christmas, Miss Morrell and Mr Nick Toksvig, a friend of Mr McCarthy, flew to Dam-



Miss Morrell: thinks her fiancé is still alive.

ascus and Cyprus in search of information. "At the time it was too dangerous to go into Lebanon, but we put one foot over the border just to feel closer to John," she said. No firm information emerged, but they made contacts which they hope to follow up in another trip.

Mr Waite carried her hopes on his mission. "A few days before he went to Lebanon, he said he had a lead on John but would not say what it was. I appreciated that he could not reveal his contacts. But at least he did believe that John was alive, from what he had heard."

Miss Morrell now suffers a sense of frustration that the one tenuous link was lost before she could establish what lay behind it.

She and Mr McCarthy had been together for three years, working for World Wide Television News. He was sent to Beirut to stand in for the bureau chief, who was on holiday. Immediately after the bombing of Libya, his employers realized the danger and ordered him to leave but at first no flight was available.

He was in a convoy of cars travelling to the airport on April 17 when a car containing four gunmen pulled in front of his vehicle. No one else was kidnapped.

Miss Morrell said that two groups, the Children of Gadafi and the Revolutionary Commando Cells, had claimed responsibility, but it was unclear whether either claim was true.

Some diplomats believe he is most likely to have been taken for purely financial motives by freelancers hoping to sell him to a politically motivated group.

The family's only comfort has been the lack of evidence that he is dead. It is assumed in Whitehall that, if he had been killed in reprisal for the bombing, his body would have been found. This was the case with the two British teachers, Philip Padfield and Leigh Douglas, found shot dead, together with an American, on April 17.



## Violence in townships feared as train attacks and rail strike continue

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

A railway coach was set alight east of here yesterday and a black youth was shot in the leg as he allegedly tried to set fire to a second coach in the same area, amid growing fears that a five-week strike by black railwaymen could spill over into township violence.

The attacks on the railway coaches, now numbering over 50 in the past four days, have been directly linked by the authorities to the black railwayworkers' dispute with the South African Transport Services (SATS), originally over the dismissal of a worker, but which has now turned into a struggle for black union recognition.

Armed South African troops and police were out in force at stations yesterday as hundreds of thousands of black commuters attempted to get from the townships to white areas where they work.

The SATS management has already threatened to resort to mass dismissals if the black railwaymen continue with their action.

Mr Bart Grove, the SATS General Manager, has indicated such a step was likely to be preceded or accompanied by increased police action which would probably involve the arrest and deten-

tion of strikers and union leaders.

The Government's Bureau for Information reported that the latest burning of a coach was at Springs, about 30 miles east of Johannesburg, while an 18-year-old black youth was shot in the leg as he allegedly tried to set fire to another coach at George Goch station.

The black South African Railway and Harbour Workers' Union claimed yesterday that the strike, which began quietly in Johannesburg on March 13 when 600 men stopped work over the alleged unfair dismissal of a driver, has spread to the Northern and Eastern Transvaal as well as to Bloemfontein in the Orange Free State, and that more than 20,000 men were out.

Management put the total on strike yesterday at 14,800. They said their open letter might violate the laws, but "we do so... out of Christian conscience".

Archbishop Desmond Tutu and 46 Anglican clergymen challenged emergency laws yesterday in a letter to President Botha demanding an end to detention without trial (Kestner reports from Cape Town).

Management put the total on strike yesterday at 14,800.

but said attempts to spread it to Bloemfontein had failed.

A spokesman for Putco, the biggest black bus company, said it had pressed 75 extra buses, withdrawn during a customer boycott in December, back into service. But he added: "There are not enough buses in South Africa to cope with this situation."

Meanwhile, an ultimatum yesterday to 7,000 striking black postal workers in Johannesburg and Soweto to return to their jobs or lose pay apparently failed. A Post Office spokesman said that although some trickled back, large numbers were still out "due to intimidation".

Police scrutiny: The End Conscription Campaign (ECC), which campaigns against the call-up of white youths for national service, is the latest organization whose funding is being investigated by the police, the pro-Government *Citizen* newspaper reported yesterday.

Earlier this week General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, described the ECC as a direct enemy of the Defence Force and said its objective was to present the army as a threat to peace and the protector of an unjustifiable system.



## Pope opens Easter celebrations

The Pope giving his blessing to the faithful yesterday as he entered St Peter's basilica in Rome to open the four-day Easter celebrations with a Holy Thursday Mass of the Chrism, attended by about 1,000 priests and 20 cardinals and bishops.

In the evening, the Pope, who is just back from an exhausting pilgrimage to South America, celebrated a Mass in the church of

St John Lateran (Roger Boyes writes from Rome). Part of the ritual involved the Pope kneeling to wash the feet of 12 elderly men to demonstrate humility.

Today, the Pope will carry a wooden cross through the Colosseum. On Sunday he will celebrate Mass in St Peter's Square and deliver his twice-yearly "Urbi et Orbi" (to the city and the world) blessing.

## Battle of St Louis

## French Catholic rebels back in contested church

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The Catholic ultra-traditionalists of Port Marly, 15 miles west of Paris on the River Seine, are delighted. A fortnight after they were forcibly thrown out of their beloved church of St Louis by police using tear gas, they are back, preparing to celebrate Easter according to the traditional Tridentine Mass.

"All we want is to be able to pray in peace, according to the old rite," M. Jacques le Morvan, a 33-year-old engraver, said.

"We are restarting our occupation; in fact, we never

really gave it up. Even after they expelled us, we continued to mount a 24-hour vigil in front of the white cross we have erected in front of the church.

"I don't believe they would dare commit a second sacrilege and use force again. You know, some of the police who were involved are so ashamed by what they've done that they've had to go on sick leave. They know they did something terrible when they laid hands on Abbé Bruno before the altar as he was in the middle of celebrating Mass."

M. le Morvan was speaking in the sacristy, the only light provided by a candle. Windows and doors had been walled up after the last police raid, in an attempt to prevent the traditionalists getting back in.

Heating had long since been cut off and now the church was being subjected to prolonged power cuts.

The traditionalists' story goes back to 1965 when Canon Roussel arrived to take over as parish priest of the dilapidated 18th-century church. Port Marly was not known for its religious fervour, and less than a dozen people turned up for Canon Roussel's first service of Gregorian chant and traditional Latin Mass.

But within two years he had gathered round him a devoted following of more than 1,000 and the church was filled to bursting three times every Sunday. A choir was organized and a subscription scheme started to renovate the crumbling church, winning for Canon Roussel in 1971 first prize in a national competition for the "rescue of endangered works of art".

The parish became a thriving, closely-knit religious community, wholly dedicated to the form of worship which Canon Roussel continued to practise unimpeded in their midst for 20 years.

When he died in 1985, he was sorely missed, but the community continued to hold its traditional services under the temporary leadership of a Zairean priest, while waiting anxiously for an official appointment by the Bishop of Versailles.

Unease turned to alarm when the new priest, Abbé

Caro, arrived last September with instructions to "normalize" the situation at Port Marly and introduce the new liturgy.

The traditionalists feared that everything their beloved Canon Roussel had built and fought for was about to be destroyed. On November 29 they "took over" the church.

The next day Abbé Bruno, a Benedictine monk ordained by the French traditionalist leader, Mgr Lefebvre, was invited to lead their services. Nearly the whole Port Marly congregation decided to join the rebels, leaving a "rump" of 30 people to attend the new vernacular Mass celebrated by the official priest, Abbé Caro, in a parish hall across the road.

For the next three months, Abbé Bruno, aged 35, a brilliant graduate of the elite St Cyr military academy, continued to celebrate the Tridentine Mass once a week and three times on Sundays, while the traditionalists took it in turns to mount a 24-hour guard on the church.

A court expulsion order, made in December at the request of the local authorities — the legal owners of the church — was ignored. Bailiffs were sent in to execute the order on March 6, but the traditionalists reoccupied the church the next day.

On March 30 the bailiffs came back and had little trouble in evicting the four people keeping vigil in the church. But the traditionalists soon returned in force.

The police were called in, and violent scenes ensued. Tear gas mingled with incense, as old women and screaming children were dragged from their seats. Abbé Bruno was seized at the altar and hauled outside. Three people had to

be taken to hospital, including a girl with a broken rib. The church was closed and bolted.

But the traditionalists were not beaten. For the next two Sundays, they continued to hold services in front of the walled-up church.

Near the end of last Sunday's service, loud banging was suddenly heard from the back of the congregation as the "Christus Vincit" rose to a crescendo. Within minutes, a group of young men, armed with a battering ram, broke down a walled-up door and the worshippers surged into the church, many weeping for joy as they fell on their knees to give thanks.

"People say they saw three National Front deputies in our midst last Sunday and have therefore accused us of being manipulated by the extreme right," M. le Morvan said. "But it's absolutely not true: we have all sorts in our congregations."

"We're not here for our political views, but to serve God. We just want to be left free to worship in the way we believe to be right."

## Fanfani's Cabinet criticized

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Italy's caretaker Prime Minister, Signor Amintore Fanfani, completed his Cabinet yesterday — and promptly encountered criticism.

Signor Fanfani, president of the Senate and the country's senior parliamentarian, has been clutching a copy of Jennings's *Cabinet Government*, the classic British work, since he was asked to form a government on Wednesday. It has not, however, been much help in the complex Italian political landscape.

According to political sources, he has offered the deputy prime ministership to the Republican Party leader, Signor Giovanni Spadolini, until recently the Defence Minister. The remaining top positions go to Christian Democrats.

Signor Fanfani is free to compose such a line-up because his brief is to create a so-called "institutional government", essentially a transitional device to give the country stability in the run-up to a general election.

The "institutional government" is a perplexing device and, indeed, unprecedented in postwar Italy. It means that President Cossiga has decided that since the political parties are unable to work out a government among themselves, the leadership should pass to somebody who is technically "above politics".

The ministers will be sworn in this week. There will be a vote of confidence in Parliament in a few days and if, as seems possible, Signor Fanfani's administration is not approved, the election will be called for June and his Government will remain in place until then.

## Carter 'proud of Amy'

From Charles Bremner, New York

Former President Jimmy Carter has declared his support for his daughter, Amy, after she was acquitted along with 14 others on charges arising from a demonstration against the Central Intelligence Agency.

"I'm very proud of Amy. She is a very shy girl who believes in what she is doing," Mr Carter said.

The court room in Northampton, Massachusetts, erupted in cheering when the



Amy Carter: celebrating after her court victory.

jury returned its verdict of not guilty on Miss Carter, aged 19, and 14 other protesters.

The 15 had been charged with trespassing and obstructing a bus at the University of Massachusetts last November during the protest against the CIA.

The two-week trial turned into a review of the CIA's record as the defence called well-known witnesses to testify to alleged illegal activities by the organization.

The local District Attorney, Mr Michael Ryan, said that the verdict showed the distaste of ordinary Americans for the CIA's activities.

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## US successes in battle against cancer are attacked as exaggerated

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Gains in treating cancer over the past 30 years have been small and overstated, according to an authoritative congressional watchdog body. But the National Cancer Institute angrily rejected the finding yesterday as "offensive".

The General Accounting Office blamed Government health officials for exaggerating the successes. It said that for a majority of the 12 most common tumours there was little or no improvement from 1950 to 1982 in the rate of survival.

Establishing progress in cancer research and treatment is politically important in the continual struggle to persuade Congress to allocate more funds for cancer work at the cost of research on other diseases. The new findings are bound to raise questions about the cost effectiveness of the Federal Government's \$1 billion (£617 million) a year cancer programme.

The congressional study is the first comprehensive examination of the institute's claims of success. Many medical critics have accused the organization of exaggerating

its successes to protect its budget.

The report acknowledged that progress had been made, but not as great as that reported. It argued that the earlier detection of certain cancers and changes in the way data were compiled "artificially inflate the amount of true progress". The 131-page

Azidothymidine, the only drug approved by the US Government for treating Aids, due to go on sale this month, may cost patients \$10,000 (£6,150) a year, the American Medical Association said yesterday (Reuters reports from Chicago).

report found that "for a majority of the cancers we examined, the actual improvements have been overestimated by the published rates".

Dr Vincent Devita, the institute's director, said the report ignored the "enormous progress" made by scientists in understanding the cancer cell and how it becomes malignant. Such advances, many occurring in recent years, had not yet affected the

overall survival statistics but in the future were bound to have an impact.

The congressional report concluded that there had been a dramatic improvement in the percentage of patients surviving for five years after the detection of leukaemia or non-Hodgkins lymphoma, two types of blood cancer, although most such patients continued to die early.

It found only "slight improvement" in survival rates for the three most common cancers, affecting the lung, breast, and colon and rectal areas. Statistical distortions made progress in breast cancer seem better than it really was.

Representative Ted Weiss, a Democrat of Manhattan, who requested the congressional study, said the findings raised serious questions about the performance of the cancer programme. "While it is heartening that cancer patient survival has improved for some cancer patients, we have apparently not done nearly as well in treating cancer as government officials have led us to believe," he added.

## US court hope for convicted Nazi

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The US Supreme Court offers the last chance for a convicted Nazi war criminal, found guilty in absentia by a Soviet court, to be saved from deportation to the Soviet Union and probable death.

Mr Karl Linas, aged 67, is said to have been the commander of the Tartu concentration camp in Estonia,

collaborating with the Nazis to execute men, women and children at the camp from 1941 to 1943. Twelve thousand people died at Tartu.

American law requires Mr Linas to be sent to the Soviet Union unless another country can be found to take him. But 16 countries have refused such requests from his lawyers.

The Supreme Court is expected to hear the case today.

Mr Linas, being held in a detention centre in Manhattan, was stripped of his American citizenship in 1961 by a federal district court for lying about his Nazi past to immigration officials when he entered the United States in 1951.

## Woman has first brain cell graft in US



Mrs Dickye Baggett, aged 42, a Parkinson's disease sufferer, at a news conference at Vanderbilt University Medical Centre in Nashville, Tennessee. The first person in the US to undergo brain graft surgery, during which adrenal gland cells were transplanted into her brain, Mrs Baggett is flanked by her husband, Henry, and Dr George Allen, the principal surgeon.

## Doubts in Canada on Tripoli 'suicide'

From John Best, Ottawa

Some Canadian politicians are expressing scepticism over Libyan accounts of the death of a Canadian reporter who fell or was pushed to his death from the roof of a government-run guest house in Tripoli earlier this week.

The Libyan authorities have said that the reporter, Mr Christoph Lehmann-Halens, committed suicide in a bout of depression after seeing injured survivors of the US bombing raid on Tripoli a year ago.

His body was found early on Tuesday outside a three-storey villa where he had been staying while covering an international conference organized by Colonel Gaddafi to commemorate the first anniversary of the bombing raid.

Mr Lehmann-Halens, aged 31, of Ottawa, worked for Canada's Southam News Service.

In the House of Commons in Ottawa on Wednesday, Mr Jean-Robert Gauthier, a Liberal opposition MP, described

Mr Lehmann-Halens's death as "most peculiar".

He asked Mr Joe Clark, the External Affairs Minister, whether the real cause had been determined.

Mr Clark replied that a Canadian consular official had been sent from Rome to Tripoli to investigate. Canada does not have an embassy in the Libyan capital.

Mr Gauthier urged Mr Clark to advise the reporter's family to request that a second autopsy be performed "by a third party independent of Libya" to establish the cause of death. The minister said that he would consider that suggestion.

Meanwhile, the Danish Ambassador to Libya, Mr Knud Christensen, was quoted in interviews as saying that Libyan police had finished their investigation and "will say it was an accident".

He also said other Canadians attending the conference were convinced that foul play was not involved. "They think he slipped. They don't know, but that's what they say."

The official Libyan news agency, Jana, in a report monitored in Rome, said that a Canadian youth committed suicide as a result of "the effects of what he saw of the damage caused by the American aggression".

But Mr Nicholas Hills, the general manager of Southam News, denounced this as "the classic big lie". He added: "It is so preposterous, I can only ask what the Libyans are trying to do with such a grotesque red herring."

The father of the dead reporter, Mr Horst Lehmann-Halens, who lives in Barantrup, West Germany, also dismissed the suicide version.

On Tuesday he and his wife received a letter from their son saying that he was going to see them on April 24, after the Tripoli conference.

Southam News quoted an unidentified Canadian student, who dropped out of the trip during a stopover in Rome, as saying there were disturbing tensions within the Canadian delegation when it reached Italy on the way to Libya.

## Hinckley Easter outing is barred

Washington — John Hinckley, the man who shot President Reagan in 1981, has been forbidden to make an unescorted one-day visit to his parents after disclosure that he wrote sympathetic letters to a mass murderer (Mohsin Ali writes).

Hospital administrators overruled a decision by Hinckley's psychiatrists to let him out on a 12-hour pass for Easter Sunday.

## Ferry heroines

Bangkok (AP) — The Government has honoured three West German women holiday-makers who swam for five hours to shore to seek help for a capsized ferry on which 21 people died.

## Ships banned

Ankara (Reuters) — Turkey will ban Greek-Cypriot ships from its ports from May 14 because of Greek-Cypriot attempts to isolate Turkish north Cyprus economically, the Foreign Ministry said.

## Police guard

Dakar (AFP) — Paramilitary gendarmes were on duty in Senegal's police stations after the National Assembly approved the sacking of all 6,265 members of the police force.

## Fiji pledge

Suva (Reuters) — The newly-elected Fijian Prime Minister, Mr Timoci Bavadra, promised to ban nuclear warships from the South Pacific nation.

## Polish deputy

Warsaw (Reuters) — Professor Zdzislaw Sadowski, a senior economist, has been appointed Deputy Prime Minister.

## Greek gang 'forged wills of its victims'

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greek police said yesterday they were investigating the circumstances of three more deaths after the arrest of a gang of criminals on charges of killing four well-to-do old people and of forging their wills to inherit their wealth.

The three deaths, which occurred between 1978 and 1984, were attributed to natural causes, but the beneficiaries and the witnesses on the wills of the deceased were among those named in the four other forged wills disposing of properties worth millions of pounds.

Four men and a woman arrested earlier this week in southern Greece in a house described by the police as belonging to "the gang's next victims" have so far been charged with setting up a criminal gang and illegal possession of lethal weapons.

"What has emerged so far is only the tip of the iceberg," a police officer investigating the case said. One policeman, who confessed to witnessing falsely the wills of two of the victims for a fee of £750, has been suspended.

A cloak-and-dagger touch was added when a Greek

businessman from West Germany, claiming to be an amateur detective, said he had unravelled the whole affair and even helped the police trap the gang.

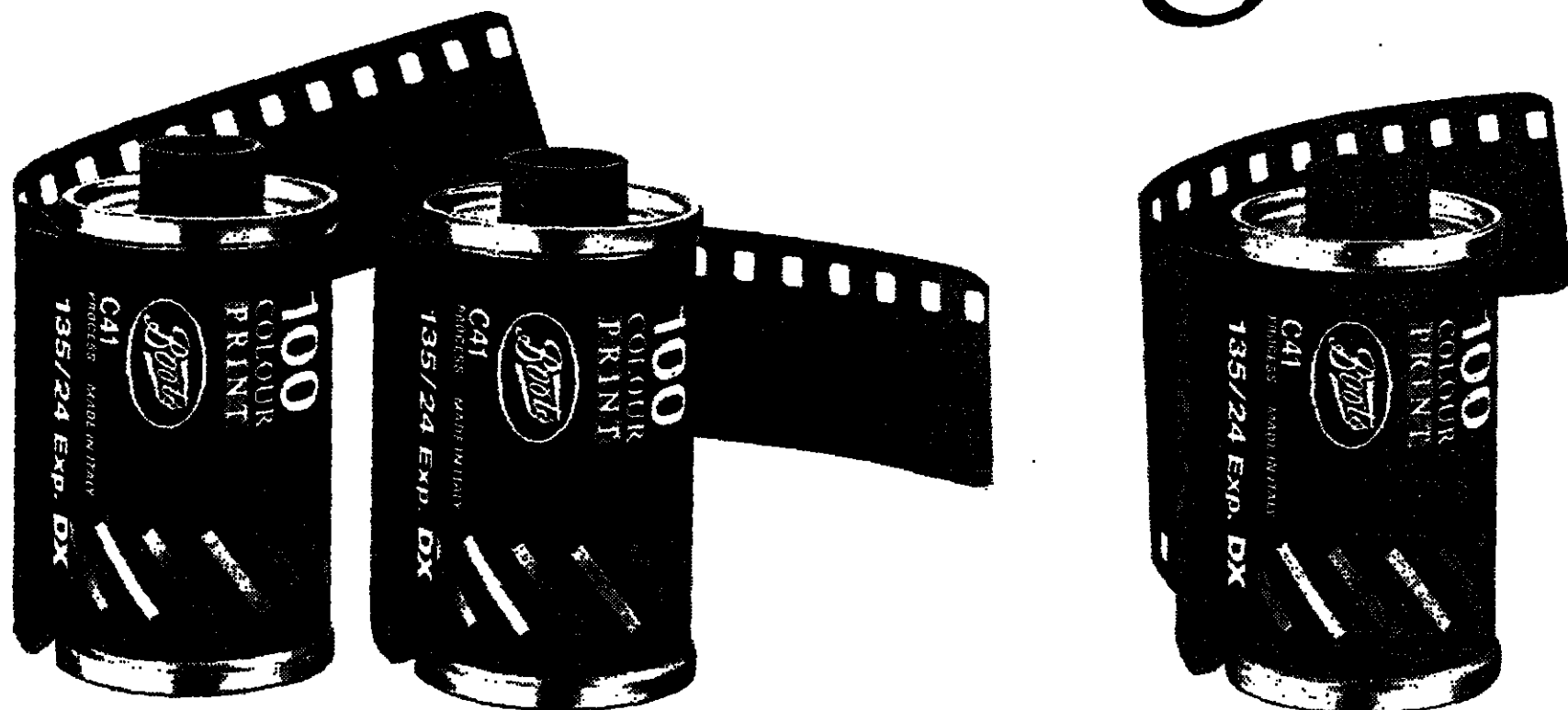
The man, who identified himself simply as "Mr Constantine," said he believed there were about 25 victims in all and more than 100 people were linked to the gang.

He disclosed that he had given details of the gang's activities directly to Mr Antonis Drosos, the Minister of Public Order, and complained that the minister told him to go and have his head examined.

The affair acquired more political overtones after it was revealed that one of the arrested men, Christos Papadopoulos, a lawyer, who the police allege is the gang's mastermind, became Mayor of Nea Halkidona, a suburb of Athens, in 1982 with the support of the ruling Socialists.

He was forced to resign in 1984 after being charged with forging his own death certificate to avoid trial for writing cheques worth £50,000 without funds.

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## Planning China's future

## Deng tries to hasten process of choosing his successor

From Robert Gries, Peking

China's reformist leaders are anxious to speed up the process by which the political successors to Mr Deng Xiaoping are chosen, diplomats in Hong Kong said yesterday.

Mr Deng, the country's top leader and at the age of 82 one of China's oldest statesmen, has said on several occasions in the last year that he would like to retire at the thirteenth Communist Party congress, due to take place this September or October.

But Mr Deng does not want to leave the political scene without ensuring that he will be succeeded by a younger man who shares his vision of China's future — one in which the country is economically and militarily strong, but still guided by the party.

Spurring on Mr Deng and

In the last year the emergence of Mr Peng Zhen, aged 85, the aggressive chairman of the National People's Congress, as a force in Chinese politics has surprised both Chinese and Westerners in Peking.

Mr Peng is now understood to have quietly built up a formidable political opposition to Mr Deng's reform policies.

Mr Peng said recently that he does not see China's reforms in the same way that Mr Deng does. Instead of the practical reform advocated by Mr Deng, Mr Peng suggested that he favoured the goal of "turning Socialism into Communism."

"Peng and Deng are both radical reformers," a Chinese source in Peking said recently. "They just have different goals."

According to diplomats in Hong Kong, the current succession scenario calls for Mr Zhao to be confirmed as the party General Secretary this autumn at the party congress, and for his successor as Prime Minister to be selected at the next meeting of the National People's Congress in March 1988.

"The trouble is, when Deng and Peng wake up in the morning they both feel the aches and pains of old age," a diplomat in Hong Kong said. "They would like to speed up the timetable if they could."

The announcement this week in Peking that Mr Li Peng, China's principal Deputy Prime Minister, will be too busy to attend Sino-Soviet economic talks in Moscow next month has rekindled speculation that Mr Li has already been tagged by the leadership to succeed Mr Zhao as Prime Minister.

Mr Li, aged 58, a Soviet-trained engineer, is also considered to be a technology-oriented reformer, credentials which make him appealing to both Moscow and the West.

China, which quarrelled with the Soviet Union in the early 1960s over ideological differences, has emphasized its unwillingness to send any official above the rank of deputy minister or deputy prime minister to Moscow for negotiations.

If Mr Li were in line for the prime ministership in the autumn, diplomats said yesterday, Peking might not want to send him to Moscow.

Diplomats in Hong Kong said yesterday that, contrary to Mr Li's past statements on the subject, he did know Mr Mikhail Gorbachev when he studied engineering in Moscow in the 1950s.

These sources also said that Mr Li had stopped in Moscow to renew his acquaintance with Mr Gorbachev in November 1985, while on the way home from a visit to the Eastern bloc.



Mr Peng Zhen

● Peng and Deng are both radical reformers. They just have different goals ●



Mr Deng Xiaoping

his chief lieutenant, Mr Zhao Ziyang, who is currently both Prime Minister and acting party General Secretary, is the fear that their reforms are under attack by other senior Chinese officials, according to diplomatic sources here.

Student protests in China late last year, the sacking of Mr Hu Yaobang, a political ally and the number two man in the Dengist regime, and delays in the passage of important pieces of reform legislation have taken a toll of Mr Deng's political authority.

While his prestige is still relatively absolute, his policies have begun to be questioned by other Chinese leaders.



Rescuers pulling Mrs Cheryl Crowder, aged 24, out of Dry Branch Creek north of Buchanan, Virginia, after her seven-year-old son, Michael, was swept through a culvert during a heavy rainstorm. A rescue worker, right, tries to find the boy, who was discovered downstream but died in hospital.

## Shin Bet accused again of fabricating evidence

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Shin Bet, Israel's counter-intelligence agency, is again alleged to have fabricated evidence in order to get a conviction.

This time its accuser is a former army lieutenant, Mr Barak Nafsa, who was sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment by a secret military court in 1980 after he was found guilty on the basis of evidence supplied by Shin Bet. He was said to have handed information about military equipment to an enemy.

A member of Israel's tiny but loyal Muslim Circassian population, he had won a commission in the Army,

overcoming the inevitable prejudices against non-Jewish personnel.

At his trial he apparently claimed in vain that he had been framed and the court did note that there were indications of some tampering of the evidence against him. However, he was convicted and last year was refused permission to appeal.

The Supreme Court is now to hear the case because of a change in the military justice law which permits this. The basis of the appeal is the admission last year by Mr Yossi Ginosar, a former senior Shin Bet executive, that it was normal practice for the agency to fabricate evidence.

Mr Ginosar said this in making a

successful plea for a presidential pardon for his part in the cover-up devised by Shin Bet to disguise the fact that two Palestinian prisoners had been killed by the agency.

Evidence had been contrived to try to put the blame on General Yitzhak Mordechai, the officer commanding the unit which captured the Palestinians.

Mr Ginosar, who has left Shin Bet to become head of the Israel Export Institute, issued a statement denying that he did anything wrong in preparing the evidence which convicted the lieutenant.

However, a Justice Ministry team appointed to investigate the case has

found sufficient reason to suggest that at least some of the evidence was tampered with, and the Supreme Court president, Mr Meir Shamgar, agreed to accept the appeal.

This means that the total ban on publication of any details of the case has to be lifted, even though the new head of Shin Bet has tried to persuade Mr Yitzhak Mordechai, the Attorney-General, to find a way of avoiding a hearing which will explore the agency's working methods.

Mr Avraham Shavit, the Justice Minister, said yesterday that if any wrongdoing was found by the court, then those involved would be prosecuted.

## Riot police in Korea clash with students

Seoul (AP) — Violence and anti-government protests erupted at 24 universities across South Korea yesterday amid a crackdown on dissent.

At Sogang University in Seoul, witnesses said about 600 students hurled fire bombs and stones at police, who replied with tear gas.

The students chanted "Down with dictatorship" and demanded a halt to what they called US support for dictatorship. The witnesses said at least 10 students were injured, including two hit by tear-gas grenades. The newspaper *Chosun Ilbo* said at least nine students were arrested.

Student sources and newspaper reports said more than 13,000 students staged rallies or violent demonstrations at eight schools in the capital and 16 provincial universities.

The police placed 120,000 men on a four-day special alert and Mr Soh Dong Kwon, the country's top prosecutor, called a meeting of prosecutors to order special repression of dissent.

South Korea's campuses had been relatively quiet this spring. But there have been predictions that demonstrations would flare up after President Chun's announcement that no changes would be made in the election system until his successor was chosen next year.

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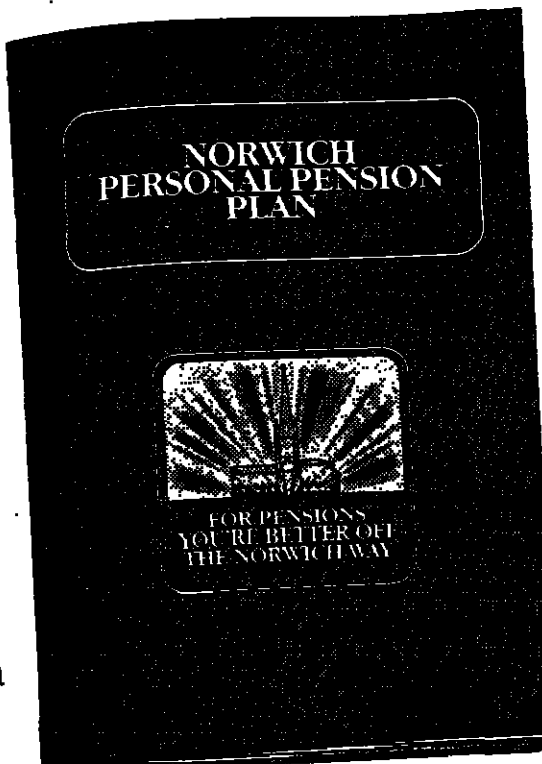
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# Detective on Christ's trail

## Shucks, failed again

The tough British driving test is defeating hundreds of angry Americans

To be told you cannot drive after you have been driving safely for years must be an humiliating experience. It is, however, routinely dealt out to hundreds of American citizens who take the British driving test knowing that they risk a £400 fine if they are caught driving without a licence after a year in this country.

A *Wall Street Journal* article recently dwelt on the ritualized defrocking of experienced American drivers by British examiners. The article was written from the heart. Barbara Toman, one of the *Journal's* staff reporters in London, failed her test for the second time in February.

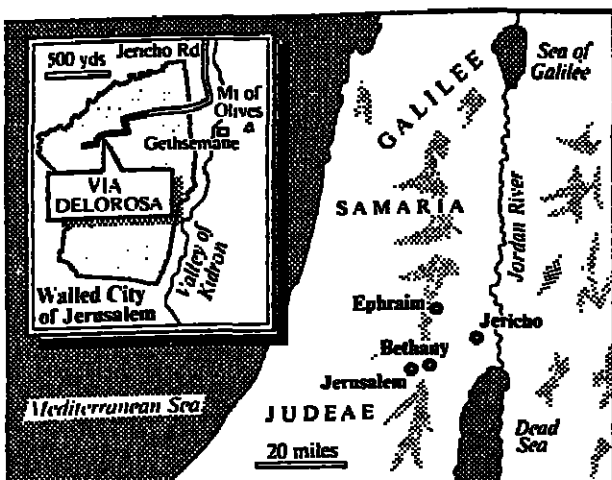
Under the heading, "Our Reporter Fails Test Again Thanks to Rule No.184 Of Britain's Road Code", she explains how she was asked how long she would wait before telephoning a signalman if railway crossing gates remained down after a train had passed. She said five minutes. The correct answer, according to rule 184, is three.

Miss Toman, who came to Britain in 1983, has been driving for 10 years. She passed her test when she was 16 in Indiana, where they do things differently. Their test is partly a matter of continual assessment, partly a multiple choice "written test", taken in front of a visual display unit. Many candidates escape the stomach-churning ordeal with an examiner entirely.

The British driving test, with its 51 per cent failure rate (compared with 15 per cent in the USA), is reckoned by the Department of Transport to be one of the most stringent in the world. However, a reciprocal agreement with EEC countries means that European drivers may obtain a British licence by merely handing in their existing one.

The Americans are not so lucky. Barbara Toman has now not driven, except with an instructor by her side, since October 1984. Her fiancé has assumed the role of chauffeur. "I am pretty discouraged," she admits. "I don't know how much more humiliation I can take."

Andrew Billen



Travelling by foot over the paths that Jesus trod, an Irish Dominican monk has pieced together a version of the Easter story that challenges ancient beliefs. Ian Murray reports



Father Murphy-O'Connor: "When Jesus reached Gethsemane he was deeply shocked ... you could imagine him looking at those gravestones and thinking: 'My God, it might be tonight'."

Christ was scared of dying. He probably never rode in triumph on the first Palm Sunday. He probably never carried the cross along the route of what is now called Via Dolorosa. Many of the Jerusalem sites venerated by Christians are the wrong ones. These are not heresies, but the conclusions of informed detective work by Father Jerry, or, to give him his full title, Father Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, the long-serving Professor of the New Testament at the Ecole Biblique et Archéologique Française in Jerusalem.

He is an Irish Dominican who prefers a baseball to a cowl, and who seems over the past 20 years to have walked every footpath in the Holy Land in the way all but the very rich did in the time of Christ. Before the invention of the stirrup very few could ride a horse, and most travel was by foot at an average rate of 25 miles a day.

It was by foot that the Galilee Jews would have made their Passover purification pilgrimage to Jerusalem, taking

three or four days, trudging down the Jordan Valley rather than risk cutting across hostile Samaria.

Father Jerry reckons that Jesus set out of Galilee a couple of weeks ahead of the main group of 2,000 or 3,000 Galileans, stopping when he reached Jericho. It was there that he received the message from his friends Mary and Martha asking him to hurry to Bethany where Lazarus was dying. The ancient road from Jericho followed the course of the Wadi Umm esh-Shid, green at this time of year from the winter rains. Just below Bethany it crosses the Route of the Patriarchs, which the Jews followed to bypass Jerusalem in the days when the city was ruled by the Jebusites.

Jesus may have planned to stay in Bethany until Passover, but after raising Lazarus from the dead, he learnt that Caiaphas, the High Priest, wanted to arrest him. "Jesus seems to have decided to take measures to preserve his skin," according to Father Jerry. He took the Route of the Patriarchs north to

Ephraim, where stands the modern Jewish West Bank settlement of Ofer. In Jerusalem he risked being betrayed by his Galilean account.

Father Jerry sees two possible scenarios for what happened on the first Palm Sunday. He seems to favour the first one. "He could have stayed in Ephraim until he knew the main group of Galileans was approaching Jerusalem. When the pilgrims arrived there would have been crowds waving and cheering them in. That would have been the normal thing when a large group arrived. But the cheering was not for Jesus but for the group. He would have slipped in that way without being caught, and that would be a much more calculating Jesus than we have allowed for."

The second scenario is that Jesus eventually decided "he should put on a show of a sort". He walked to Bethphage, where he sent a couple of disciples back down the hilly path of Bethany to borrow a donkey from friends. There is a church at Bethphage

today over a stone identified by crusaders as the mounting block used by Jesus. "The stone is bigger than the average donkey."

From Bethphage the path leads on to the Mount of Olives, now squeezing between the walls of the El-Tur village, where the pilgrims had their first and most wonderful view of the city. The old route then plunged steeply down into the Kidron Valley with Gethsemane (Olive Press) at the bottom.

According to Matthew, "who wants to see every element of prophecy fulfilled", Jesus was riding both an ass and a colt. "Unless you are a circus artist you can only sit on one animal," Father Jerry observes. "If he was riding two, that might explain why the children cheered him."

If the triumphal entry happened that way, Father Jerry postulates that Jesus was cheered into the city only by "children and ne'er-do-wells". He says: "If anyone knew the Messianic symbolism as they saw him arrive on the donkey,

they would have said: 'Who is this lunatic from Galilee? If the crowds really did believe he was the Messiah, why were they so quick to desert him?'"

The stairs leading up into what was the Temple enclosure have recently been excavated. It is likely that it was on them that Jesus preached and dealt with the money-changers. They remain the magnificent wide route up out of the old City of David, cut in part into the living rock, and an ideal meeting place.

During the week, Jesus would have walked back from the Temple along the hilly mile-and-a-half road to Bethany each evening. Jerusalem's water supplies at the time were only sufficient for 60,000 people, but at Passover 18,000 lambs were slaughtered in the city. As each lamb served 10, the holiday population was three times more than normal.

"There was tremendous space pressure, and it was better to find room out of town."

Jesus was on his way back to Bethany after the Last Supper. Very early Christian tradition identified the site of the Upper Room on Mount Zion, and Father Jerry sees no reason to question it.

There remains an old path-way from there down into the Kidron Valley and along to Gethsemane at the start of the steep climb up to Bethany. It passes through an ancient cemetery, and some of the tombs from Christ's time and before survive.

Father Jerry pictures Jesus walking past the gravestones gleaming in the light of the full Passover moon, aware that he was soon to die. "When he reached Gethsemane he was deeply shocked, scared, and on the edge of psychic and physical breakdown. He just collapsed. You could imagine him looking at those gravestones and thinking: 'My God, it might be tonight. The thought of death moved from the head to the gut. He had to stop and take himself in

hand." By the time of his arrest, "he was back in control — but I think that his collapse highlights the much more human Jesus".

The house of Caiaphas where Jesus was first taken stood at the top of the city. From there it was only a short way along the ridge to the citadel where Pontius Pilate always stayed. Father Jerry is certain the Roman prefect would not have been at the lower Antonia fortress, where modern tradition would have it. "He would have been in the citadel to be able to enjoy the cool evening breezes and because there was much better security there."

The way from the citadel to Golgotha lay straight down what is now the main tourist shopping street in the Old City, through a bazaar to the place outside the city walls where the confusing complex that is the Church of the Holy Sepulchre now stands. "The present Way of the Cross is backwards," Father Jerry insists. "The Via Dolorosa is defined by faith, not by history."

# The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Dismissing him, Father William threatens young man with the boot (2,3,2,3,4,3,10).
- 15 Mark so listed in stage directory? This of this is a synonym (7).
- 16 No good for a stretch? Alice isn't worried (9).
- 17 Antediluvian French hair-style (9).
- 18 It's traditional to accept pole position, so passed across (9).
- 19 Ornamental stone in the head of Mowgli's emblem (6,3).
- 20 Jute, as a German statesman (7).
- 21 Cartoonist's studio or dentist's surgery as place of post-prandial retirement? (7-4).
- 24 Royal of Pinafore (4-5).
- 26 A measure of spirit? I say! (5).
- 27 For example like certain professors receiving nothing? Shocking! (9).
- 29 Simon returned holding authorization from Hiram's grumpy (7).
- 31 Speech made with ease spoken by a man of letters (9).
- 33 Represent in other characters letters in art, a new form (13).
- 35 Where a gin's knocked back by a helot getting drunk? (6).
- 36 Fish River enters mountain lake (6).
- 39 Make a statement of some weight to the audience (8).
- 40 Spice sounds by no means as hot as it tastes (6).
- 41 Tea with a Manx cat in Paris (3).
- 42 One taken in by a trick in Piedmont (5).
- 45 A bit of relief work which... (5).
- 46 ...loses nothing taking this biblical refugee to Arthur's place (3).
- 47 Send this boat down the slipway (6).
- 48 Some volume of support? On the contrary (4-4).
- 51 Household god, the German version, in the food-store (6).
- 52 Fiends vandalizing Slough (6).
- 53 Point to which Macbeth's courage needed to be screwed (8-5).
- 55 A legal beggar? (9).
- 57 A cricketer returning to southern county is hot stuff (7).
- 59 Call down curses on the little devil — create diversion (9).
- 61 Works go through in the middle of the road (5).
- 63 Army's pursuing a Roman one in retreat, beloved (9).
- 66 Peer against amendment of this make-up order (8-3).
- 68 Stretch of fashion no longer fashionable (7).
- 70 Articles by mineworkers holding a key to this club (9).
- 71 Wretched rise — blame mismanagement (9).
- 73 Painting is such an art, like that of impressionists and forgers (9).
- 74 Must be crackers to cope with this crazy type from Rio (6,3).
- 75 One of the people who were not chosen (7).
- 76 Creed being thus begotten of optimism (3,4,2,6,2,3,7).

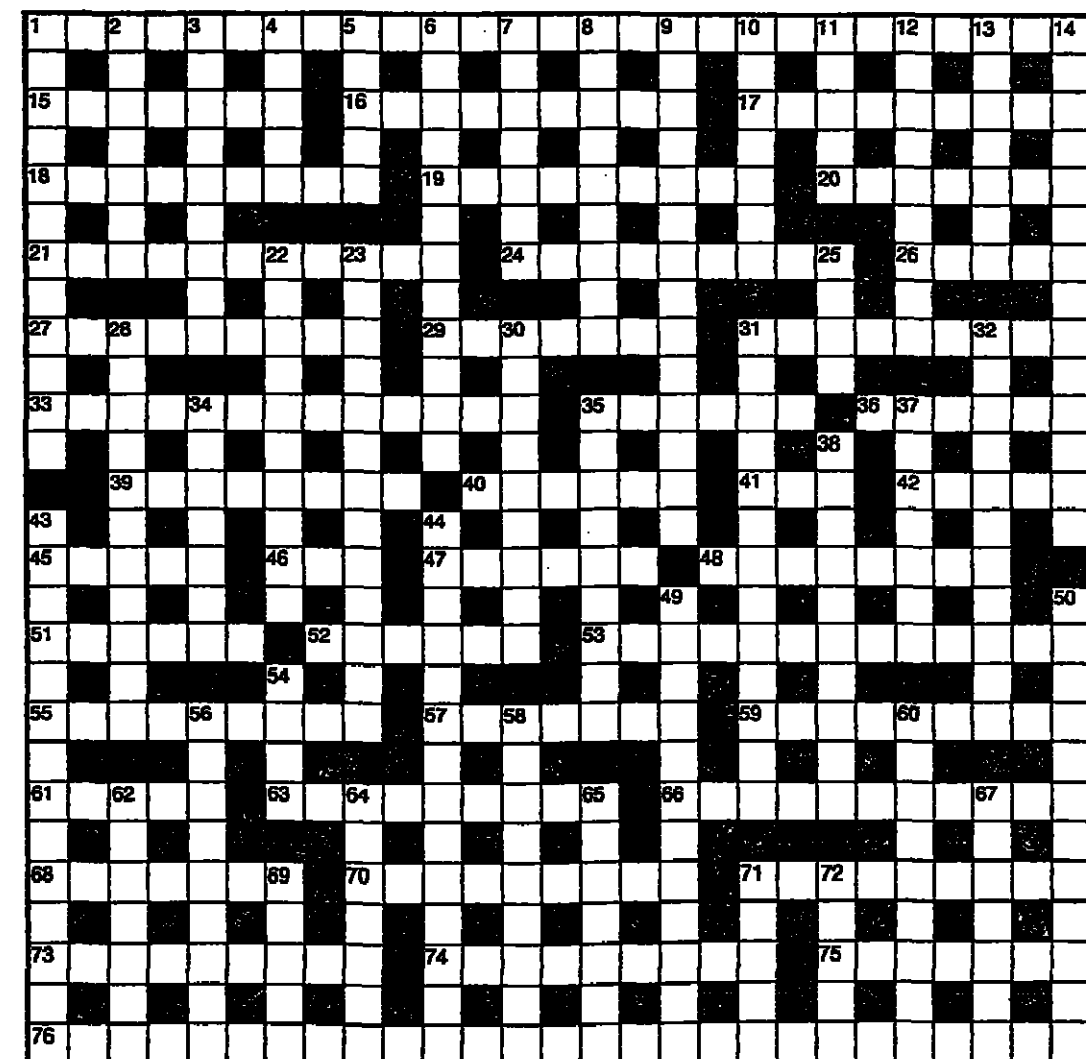
## DOWN

- 1 Here a meeting with prophetic greeting for Macbeth (7,5).

## ACROSS

- 2 A farm vehicle thus overturned by potsherd (7).
- 3 At home in rural sport in this school for young ladies (9).
- 4 Send back one in the new term (5).
- 5 Northern landowner put down on both sides of the river (5).
- 6 With his complaint one has to take something (12).
- 7 Payments demanded for heraldic devices (7).
- 8 My butter I mix with rare earth element (9).
- 9 Old Kentucky home of Mr Shelby's best man (4,5,5).
- 10 Like the legendary lute-player, losing "is parents if 'e goes" (7).
- 11 Echo for instance the measure of speed under the Empire State (5).
- 12 The "precious jewel" in the head of one "ugly and venomous" (4,7,1,1) (9).
- 13 Press is beginning to talk — of Socrates for instance as one (7).
- 14 Major domestic chore not confined to leap years (6-8).
- 22 Look among girls you disguised in resplendent fashion (10).
- 23 Carroll's carpenter was some bird! (6-7).
- 25 Sounds like the way the highwayman travelled (4).
- 28 Naval officer with engineer having rewritten rail drama (4-7).
- 30 So punishes sailor with proceeds of German port burglaries, say? (9).
- 31 "Bid time return" Salisbury told Richard II — moving hands thus? (13).
- 32 Magnificent way a sailor raised the upper layers (11).
- 34 Thorndike's doctor appears to deal with loss of consciousness (7).
- 35 Little colonel is thrice troubled with a lung complaint (9).
- 37 Silly idiot is supporting a non-starter in Belgium (7).
- 38 London boy's captured a monkey, the rascal! (10).
- 43 Cakeville, Manchester, has one cipher on record — it's resolved by church expert (14).
- 44 Reason for the singer's objection to fencing? (14).
- 49 Italian-style rising, or, to me, revolution (12).
- 50 A second agreement concerning a trust deed (12).
- 54 Part of the tuition in the case of a scampstress (4).
- 56 Daily, two besiege the French department with discordant serenade (9).
- 58 Lady's underwear at the laundry? So change one's mind (9).
- 60 Telepathy, clairvoyance etc in Rome were nothing to the lingua franca (9).
- 62 Ten, fuddled with drink, weave round and round (7).
- 64 A crazy girl upset Mozart (7).
- 65 This artist's place under a good man would appear more stately (7).
- 67 Inspiring with a new form of mini-bug (7).
- 69 She's said by Pierre to replace art in this planet (5).
- 71 Marriage as a sporting contest (5).
- 72 Vision — hardly one of delight? (5).

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Monday, May 4. Entries should be sent to The Times Jumbo Crossword, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be published on Saturday, May 9. NB: Puzzlers are reminded that words which are joined after elision are clued as one word, so "Bob's your uncle" would be clued as (4,4,5).



Name .....

Address .....

## Concise Jumbo Crossword

There are no prizes for this crossword. The solution will appear tomorrow

## ACROSS

- 1 Computer symbol scanning (7,9,11)
- 15 Fundamental nature (7)
- 16 Snail, whet, slug (9)
- 17 Japanese religion (9)
- 18 Female pimp (9)
- 19 Storage lake (9)
- 20 Moving ice mass (7)
- 21 Request salary increase (3,3,1,4)
- 24 Rubbish tips (4,5)
- 26 Law excluding female succession (5)
- 27 University terms (9)
- 29 Drinker (7)
- 31 Exactly alike (9)
- 33 Examiners (13)
- 35 Two-footed animals (6)
- 36 Ten pound note (6)
- 39 Screen for solids (8)
- 40 Dilatory (6)
- 41 Baronet's title (3)
- 42 Provokes (5)
- 45 With rowing blades (5)
- 46 100 score (3)
- 47 Collar-sleeved coat (6)
- 48 Ring gapper (8)
- 51 Came closer (6)
- 52 Andean vulture (6)
- 53 Obstinate unyielding (13)
- 55 Long held grievances (3,6)
- 57 Crocus flavour (7)
- 59 Defective (9)
- 61 Edition (5)
- 63 American football fields (9)
- 66 Proceed together (3,2,6)
- 68 Containing boron (7)
- 70 Partly sheltered anchorage (9)
- 71 Venice boatman (9)
- 73 Firm courage (4,5)
- 74 Dressed alike (2,7)
- 75 Oxlip, cowslip, polyanthus (7)
- 76 Henry VIII's break-up of religious establishments (11,2,3,11)

## DOWN

- 1 Scoring an advantage (12)
- 2 Grass clump (7)
- 3 Magicians (9)
- 4 East Belgian province (5)
- 5 Anticyclones (5)
- 6 Return from death (12)
- 7 Sacramental oil mixture (7)
- 8 Based on experience (9)
- 9 Cancer beam treatment specialist (14)
- 10 1943 Allied Italian HQ (7)
- 11 Racecourse condition (5)
- 12 During passage (2,7)
- 13 Preliminary (7)
- 14 Counting sequence (9,5)
- 22 Make better (10)
- 23 Immediate (13)
- 25 Pace (4)
- 28 Make progress (4,7)
- 30 Bus rider (9)
- 31 Manufacturer (13)
- 32 Accord (11)
- 34 Large blot (7)
- 35 Colonel's superior (9)
- 37 Noise blocker (7)
- 38 Levers wide (6,4)
- 43 Scottish TV inventor (4,5,3)
- 44 Earlier determination (14)
- 49 Norm (8,4)
- 50 100-year-olds (12)
- 54 Rugged peak (4)
- 56 Loudness increase (9)
- 58 Any edible substance (9)
- 60 Put in haphazard order (9)
- 62 Misfortunes (7)
- 64 Jewish state citizen (7)
- 65 Central Scandinavian language (7)
- 67 Incentives (7)
- 69 St Spiridon's island (5)
- 71 Street urchin (5)
- 72 Neck backs (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1234 (yesterday's concise crossword)

ACROSS: 1 Resume 4 Precise 9 Melanin 10 Bongo 11 Adar 12 Hapless 14 London Pride 18 Restyle 19 Fade 22 Needy 24 Enlarge 25 Hoing 26 Comedy

DOWN: 1 Rump 2 Solid 3 Man Friday 5 Rub 6 Contend 7 Spouse 8 Anthony Eden 11 All 13 Portfolio 15 Obscene 16 Eve 17 Crunch 20 Dingo 21 Rely 23 Yen



## FRIDAY PAGE

Friday to Monday in the country — entertaining or exhausting? Barbara Toner reports

## Welcoming weekends

Among the professional classes in London are a great many with "places in the country". On Friday nights they buzz out along the M4, the M3, the M25 and the M11, hoping to get to them before their guests.

Richard Forbes-Robertson will be driven to his smart 17th-century farmhouse in Norfolk by his pretty wife Charlotte or he will go by train due to the unfortunate but temporary loss of his driving licence. Friends from town will join them at least once a month.

"On Friday nights," he says, "I say, 'Right, here are the house rules: I say when to start drinking but after the first, you get your own'."

Richard is a television producer with a very desirable house in south London. Charlotte is a freelance cook. They have two children: Amy, aged six, and four-year-old James, so their nanny goes to the country, too.

They bought the house in Norfolk a year ago. It has six bedrooms, three bathrooms and three acres. As a host, Forbes-Robertson does as he would have done unto himself. "We leave a selection of books, and bottles of whisky, sherry and gin in the guests' rooms. If we're not down already on Friday the daily switches on the electric blankets in the guests' rooms." She also lights the two Agas, the "OK, Yags", as his PA calls them.

They make light of the catering. Charlotte does pasta for Friday supper, he does "proper" breakfasts on both Saturday and Sunday. "I'm not too fond of people coming down at 9.15 and saying 'the toast's cold'."

After breakfast they might all go to Burnham Market. "In the afternoon, some couples like to go to their rooms, for a sleep I believe."

On Saturday night they will have a dinner party to which local friends will be invited. "We don't dress for dinner but we change into something clean. We'll usually get to bed by one."

"I don't shave at all on Sundays. At 11.55 I say, 'Who wants a Bloody Mary?'"

They always have Sunday lunch. It's over by three and then people "get awfully embarrassed about the right time to go". The Forbes-Robertsons themselves head for the M11 at seven.

Friends who won't lift a finger to help, or whose children squabble with the Forbes-Robertsons, don't get asked back.

It takes good luck and good management for a splendid time to be had by all. Jane Clifford, "Fats" to her husband David, who is vice-chairman of Collett, Dickinson and Pearce, might leave Islington immediately after dropping her younger son at school in order to prepare for the arrival of friends in the evening. The Cliffords' two sons are aged 13 and 16.



Richard and Charlotte Forbes-Robertson at their country place in Norfolk: "Right, here are the house rules..."

Their converted coach house is just across the Severn Bridge.

"Frankly," says Mrs Clifford, "we entertain less and less, because it's exhausting. For years we were offering a middle-class version of grand country house living, without the staff or the money. I always used to feel vaguely apologetic that I knew nothing about shooting and fishing and that our dog wasn't a pointer."

She used to put flowers and clean sheets in the rooms, clean towels and spare toothbrushes in the bathroom. "Now if I think the sheets still look unused, I don't change them." She worries less about cooking, too. On Friday nights she might give guests something from Marks & Spencer.

They will only have friends down who understand the rules, the most important of which is that she won't tolerate criticism. "I don't want to hear 'it's a bit cold', or 'wouldn't it be nice if...'. I need to feel comfortable."

Lindy Price, her husband Leo and their four children who are aged between 16 and 22, are comfortable when their large country house is full of guests. They bought Moor Park in south Wales in 1981. It has nine

bedrooms and four bathrooms and is set in 30 acres. It already had a tennis court but they have added a swimming pool and a few bullocks to keep the grass down.

The Prices' houseguests are either "the young" or "the old". Sophie, who is 20, likes to have 12 or 14 friends for the weekend.

There's a lot to do: "I know it sounds a bit hotly but I keep a book-binder of things they can do round about."

"I think it's very handy if guests bring a book, knitting or some needlework. It gives them something to do inside, particularly if they are young and foreign."

Before Sunday lunch there's sherry, after that for the young, it's plain water. "I think of them racing back along the M4."

Her favourite guests are a husband and wife who are a pianist and an entertainer. They come on a Saturday night and his wife, who always makes a beautiful pudding. She loathes smoking and can't stand young who are uppity with the locals.

Fitting in is the cardinal rule for guests. "It's essential to become as much a part of the family as the host

does or does not possess," says Matthew Fort. He might also head out of London on a Friday night, not to a place of his own but to any of a number of friends who regard him as excellent value.

Now a creative director and part-time food writer, Fort acquired the art of being successfully entertained as a boy at prep school. "I was once reprimanded for consorting with the head butler," he remembers.

Until he was married four years ago he rarely had to spend a weekend in town. He and his wife Lindsay go away less often but they are no less popular. Part of his charm lies in the fact that he is a fine cook who always takes his own set of knives everywhere and will nearly always cook at least one meal over the weekend.

There are obligations, he feels which a guest mustn't fail to meet. "You must always like the food," he says. "I operate on the second-helping principle. If you ask for more, then they think you must have liked it. If the weekend is to be a success it is up to guests to give maximum pleasure and minimum distress."

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## Caught on camera



BARBARA AMIEL

I suppose it was colossal vanity which sent me up to Birmingham last week to take part in a 90-minute show for Central Television. The researcher who telephoned me explained that they would like my comments on the phenomenon of "toy boys". The issue wasn't of much import to me, I said, and as far as I was concerned women were free to make fools of themselves over younger men, although I thought most such relationships were doomed and intrinsically unnatural. The word "unnatural" seemed to perk up the researcher enormously, who said that the producers had hoped I would say something like that.

"You'll be all right," commented *The Times* columnist Digby Anderson, himself a veteran of the Birmingham circuit. "You just have to fight for the camera's attention." A flicker of apprehension ran through me as I thought of the people jumping up and down waving their arms in the air to single themselves out for a spot on the game show *The Price Is Right*.

It was raining when I arrived, warm, heavy rain that gave the lie to my newly-purchased waterproof mascara. The young woman who greeted me from the programme was curiously attentive to my clothing. "I really want shoes like that but I can't afford them," she said and so I obligingly took my shoes off and gave them to her. "That jacket, I'd really like that jacket," she said. I couldn't take it off because I had a stain on the silk shirt I was wearing so I just smiled warmly. When it was time to go into the studio, we were told to leave handbags behind. "I'll look after yours," said the young woman but by now I was getting worried about my soul stalked by this *doppelgänger*.

"I gather you once had an experience with a younger man and didn't think much of it," said the host of the show engagingly to me before the cameras went on.

"Well, yes," I muttered shamefacedly, "but..."

"That's terrific," he said. Then the show began.

I was seated in the front row of the studio audience. A blowy singer in her forties sang a song about toy boys. Two young men, both biceped to infinity, twirled about her.

"What's that about, then?" said a young man behind me. "Middle-aged women what go out with boys," said his mate. My ears went bright red.

The television host then proudly announced the first

guests, two nice policewomen from New York who carry guns. They came into the studio, which was of particular interest to me because they had to fit into a tiny space on the bench to my right and that sent me slussing into the chap seated on my left. "What are you here for?" I whispered as I jammed against him. "I'm a younger man," he said encouragingly.

A discussion followed that was all about the role of women in the police force and armed services. I couldn't get a word in edgewise. There seemed to be some question as to whether women were trigger-happy because they couldn't throw as good a left hook as a man and therefore

## I suppose this is how it was with the old medieval freak shows

would rely more on their revolvers. The policewomen denied this. I decided that if faced with a large, unpleasant six foot suspect in a difficult mood, I would most certainly use the nearest gun rather than rely on my biceps.

A woman with short-cropped grey hair talked passionately about the evils of militarism and how woman's caring nature could end strife. At times like that the names of Romania's Ana Pauker or Ceylon's Mrs Bandaranaike play like tiger cubs in my mind, but it seemed rude to shout them out. Fortunately, General Sir John Hackett was there, who mentioned gently that Apache women were used by the men to perform the more exotic rites of torture because they were so much more precise. There was an approving nod from the Equal

Opportunities woman who had been facing him, perched on one of those little television stools.

I'm not sure why an Equal Opportunities woman was there, unless there is a general feeling that not enough women die in combat, which may well be a defect of our sexist society. Of course, there have been some problems with the American integrated armed forces, particularly on ships and the like, where propinquity has led to pregnancy, thus impairing efficiency. No one mentioned this or the difference in upper body strength between men and women which counts when it's being used to pry you out of a car wreck or pull you from a burning house.

Suddenly we were at the toy boy item. The host asked some people to stand up. A large pasty-faced woman of 37 stood up with her unemployed husband of 16. They had got married when he was 16 and at school with her sons, who were also in the studio. Then the mother of the young husband stood up. She was an overweight woman in her mid-40s who was engaged to a gardener of 22 and her children were all there too. The husbands looked desperately young, small and skinny next to the wives. Everyone stared at the mismatched couples and I did too.

I suppose this is how it was with the old medieval freak shows. The two families stood there, lumpy and barely articulate, freakish in their mismatch. Curiously, one would not see such a sad thing on American television, which would only put the peculiar tastes of the ferociously articulate middle-classes on display. Why would English television stoop so, I wondered?

The difference, I suppose, is that the relentlessly middle-brow American culture has eliminated both the highs and lows of its art forms. England, which is still able to give the world some of the finest television programmes, also produces some of the lowest moments. I wish it were possible to have the cream without the dregs, but perhaps in order to have *I Claudius* it is also necessary to have *Central Weekend*.

Just before the end of the show, I blurted out two minutes of frenetic garbled thoughts, then, clutching my shoes and handbag I rushed back to London leaving both dignity and decency mixed in a little pool on the studio floor in Birmingham.

## Down the slippery slope

During the Easter weekend and throughout the summer, waterslides are likely to be immensely popular with children. But last year they were the scene of several accidents and new safety precautions were recommended this month.

Waterslides, or flumes, which vary in length and complexity from simple 10 foot chutes to twisting helterskelters which take more than a minute to descend, are most often used by children between the ages of 10 and 16; one manufacturer suggests that under-fives should not be allowed on the more complicated slides, but it is up to the local authority, or owner of each slide, to set age-limits.

When the Queen opened the first fully-suspended waterslide at Windsor this month, local authorities and manufacturers were already studying a draft document on safety in swimming pools, which includes a section on slides.

The Health and Safety Commission, the Government quango, has acted because of the popularity of waterslides. Since the Richmond chute (Britain's first and Europe's largest) opened in 1982, one million people have used this facility without any serious accident. But last June a five-year-old

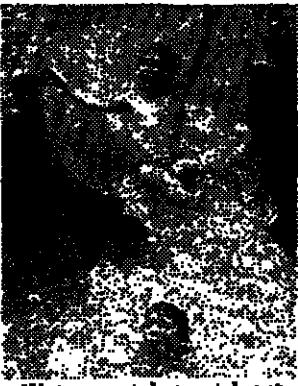
Waterslides look appealing and fun. But are they as safe as they should be?

girl drowned at Rhyll when she climbed, unobserved, from a toddlers' pool into the landing area for the waterslide.

In Hove, the beginners' slide, one of three, was closed after several children suffered from bumps, cuts and bruises, so that alterations could be made. Lighting was also improved in the "Black Hole", another chute with two dips where some children had panicked. Recently, except for one child breaking a front tooth, there have been no recorded accidents.

At the Blackburn Leisure Pool, a slide was opened on August 1 and closed the next day, after a dozen people had been injured, including one suffering a dislocated shoulder. It was later revealed that before the official opening, a visit by officers from the local police station had resulted in a policeman cutting her forehead and the local council's Health and Safety Officer had himself needed two stitches in his arm when trying it out.

The designers removed a double twist but it was again closed when routine checks showed a sealant in a joint having signs of excessive wear.



Water sport: but watch out

The waterslide is now working successfully.

Manufacturers, operators and local authorities are all concerned that safety regulations should be agreed to protect the public. But, as the Sports Council report on waterslides points out, the most vital factor in ensuring safety for the user is the initial design.

Guidelines, which are currently under discussion, suggest that slides must be supervised at the point of entry and that the spacing of riders should be carefully controlled at an agreed interval;

people should enter the slides singly and not in pairs and shallow discharge pools, into which the riders slide, should be supervised to ensure people leave immediately — and to prevent other swimmers entering them.

But it is also important that slides should be examined before use every day by someone walking its length. In Australia there has been an incident of a vandal putting a razor blade in one of the joints of the flume.

Chris Brewer, the managing director of Waterslides PLC, which owns four centres including Richmond and Hove, claims that the incident rate at his centres is now one in 27,500 rides. "Our safety record is far better than say, ice-skating. But no one makes any fuss about someone falling on a rink and bruising their elbow," he says.

Tim Butcher, the marketing manager of Design & Display, which has already built slides at 22 sites, says that it is also important that children graduate from the simple to the more intricate chutes, just as a child learning to dive does not begin from the top board. "You do not give a kid of 17 a Ferrari. You start him off with an Escort," he says.

John Goodbody

## SATURDAY

## The men with the golden keys



These are members of Les Clefs d'Or — an elite band of luxury hotel 'Mr Fixits'. Tomorrow *The Times* unlocks their secrets

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How to fill hanging baskets

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Fresh French country cooking

Understated excellence  
Chic dining in suburbia

First visits to Venice  
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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Labour intensive

Not all Labour MPs, it seems, have taken to heart the parliamentary party's commitment to providing proper contracts of employment to its researchers, assistants and secretaries. The newly established PLP staff committee has drawn up a questionnaire for Labour members to detail their employment practices. Although MPs were allowed to reply anonymously, the response has been less than overwhelming. I understand, of the 61 who have bothered to reply, only 32 said their staff were now on contracts as set down in the 1978 Employment Protection Act. Yesterday, Gill Morris, the secretary of the parliamentary branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union, refused to comment on the figures until the survey was completed. "We shall discuss what to do after we have examined all the results next month," she told me. "Whatever they are, we're better off than secretaries to Tory MPs. They never have contracts." MPs' current research and secretarial allowance: £20,140.

### Jenkins's ear

Roy Jenkins, Oxford University's chancellor-elect, is steering well clear of the first storm to blow through the halls of learning since his election last month. It is over the proposed abolition of the chair of Byzantine and Modern Greek, one of 140 posts under threat, and has caused a flurry of protesting letters from around the world. It will be discussed by Oxford's general board in a week's time, and Professor Cyril Mango, the present and possibly last incumbent, hoped the new chancellor might lend support. But Jenkins, who warned when he was elected that the university's future was threatened by a shortage of resources, has other ideas. "I am not invested until June," he tells me, "and I don't think it's the sort of matter in which the chancellor should get involved."

### Run ragged

A clutch of MPs who run in the London Marathon are fighting for the right to use County Hall, even when it is sold off, for one day a year so that the 24,000 contestants will be guaranteed the salubrious surroundings of the GLC's former home to receive medals, Mars bars, space blankets and their official times. The MPs, who are planning a run next week over Westminster Bridge, say the only other nearby venue is St Thomas's Hospital on the other side of the road, which the organizers hope will not be required.

● Winking by women in television advertisements has been banned in India. The state-run television service has introduced the rule "to improve the nation's morals".

### Pass the port

Inter-party relations have come to a pretty pass, according to the Tory MP for South Staffordshire, Patrick Cormack. He relates the uncovering of a table traditionally reserved for the Tory chief whip in the members' dining room by four left-wing Labour MPs in 1975. Cormack and three like-minded colleagues occupied a neighbouring table and sent over four large vodkas to acknowledge the coup. No words were exchanged. Five minutes later the same waiter returned with four cognacs for the Conservatives. Cormack concludes in the launch issue of *First*, a magazine for Whitehall and company chairmen: "I do not think the same could happen today. One reason is that there is an increasing tendency to think of the Opposition as the enemy."

BARRY FANTONI



"Don't worry, you're not the first to cancel his two weeks in June"

### Lord De L'Isle

After a hearing in the Court of Appeal, I understand that Lord De L'Isle's departure from the First National Finance Corporation in 1975 was because the clearing banks, who were supporting FNFC, wanted to appoint their own nominee as chairman. His resignation took place with the agreement of the Bank of England. If anyone misunderstood my original article in July 1985, which is currently the subject of a libel action between Lord De L'Isle and Times Newspapers, and thought I suggested that his departure from FNFC in 1975 caused the Bank of England to throw it a lifeline, then I apologise to Lord De L'Isle. I intended only to point out that there was no reference to his chairmanship of FNFC in his curriculum vitae when he became chairman of City Acre Property Investment Trust in July 1985.

PHS

# A Roman cure for illiteracy?

Edward Phinney on America's success in using Latin to teach children to read

Those depressed by the decline of Latin teaching in Britain's schools should draw some encouragement from the American experience, and in particular a remarkable experiment with illiterates.

In at least two respects American educational experience in the past 30 years has mirrored that of Britain. It too has seen a decline in Latin and in standards of written English. Between 1962 and 1976 Latin enrolments in state high schools (students 15 to 18 years old) declined by 79 per cent from 702,000 to about 150,000.

Many factors contributed to the decline, some of them mysterious, others recognizable, such as the higher priority that educators, responding to the Sputnik scare and supported by government funding like the National Defence Education Act, gave to sciences and modern foreign languages; the decisions of Vatican II which led to the substitution of vernacular languages for Latin in the Mass, a change understood by many to be the burial of a dead language.

During the same period parents became increasingly worried by their children's inability to write English. The statistics were ominous. The average verbal score on the national Scholastic Aptitude Test had dropped 33 points between 1957 (the year of the first

Sputnik) and 1973 (the year of Watergate). Worse, 11 per cent of 17-year-olds were found to be illiterate: unable to read, much less fill out a job application form. The scandal rocked even the universities when certain publishers admitted to lowering the reading difficulty of college textbooks to a pre-college level.

Naturally, traditional remedial educational programmes burgeoned, but more notably, through the vision of classicists working in large cities like Washington, Philadelphia and Indianapolis, Latin was introduced into the literacy programmes at the elementary or primary-school level.

The Latin courses at the elementary level, no matter where they were taught, shared the same objectives: to introduce children to basic Latin structure and vocabulary; to extend their English vocabulary through game-drills in Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes; to acquaint them with those aspects of classical culture that were most evident in the architecture, society, and government around them; and finally to stimulate an interest among them

in language study, beginning with English and continuing through Romance languages to other modern foreign languages.

The objectives were backed up with attractive textbooks, parent-support groups, and the rushed transcription, after intensive workshops, of teachers with some educational background in Latin.

The classes were wonderfully successful, and the results, as measured by standardized tests, were astounding. For example, in 1975-76 the Indianapolis public schools reported that their elementary-school Latin students excelled over non-Latin students in the language section of the Metropolitan Achievement Test by one full year of age level.

The success of Latin at the elementary level, in the very years when enrolments in Latin at higher levels were declining, gave new hope to the entire profession of American Latin teachers. Similarly, the innovations in curriculum and materials, incorporating more pragmatic approaches at the elementary and intermediate levels, led the public to re-evaluate Latin as a basic subject, essential

for literacy. The combination of new optimism among teachers and new respect among parents and their children has resulted in a turnaround in enrolments.

In 1982, the last year with official figures, there were 169,580 students in state high schools enrolled in Latin. Official figures for 1986 (they are collected every four years) will be available this autumn. Indications from states that have already reported, like California, Oklahoma, and Texas, are that Latin enrolments in 1986 will have increased 1 to 2 per cent over those in 1982. Compared with the 702,000 students we had in 1962, the 173,000 we had last year is still low. But our enrolments are increasing, funding improving, and textbooks multiplying.

Now we face a new problem. Where shall we find the teachers for the growing number of new Latin programmes in America, particularly when business, management and technology are also recruiting from the limited pool of adults who are literate enough to teach literacy? Among the salaries of white-collar workers, the salaries of teachers are near the bottom.

The author is chairman of the Department of Classics, University of Massachusetts.

Clifford Longley considers a lingering question in Christianity's relationship with the Jews that is thrown into focus each Easter

## The Jewish cross

Good Friday was bad news for Jews. For centuries it was the day they had to be careful not to venture too far from their ghettos, for it was the day that anti-semitism was particularly in the mind of the Christian rabble. Jews were branded as those who "killed God", perpetrators of the crime of deicide, the culmination of their offence of wilfully refusing to recognize their Messiah. There was always the risk that they could be assaulted in the streets.

Christian Jew-baiting is one of the nastiest chapters in Christian history, but it is a chapter that has now been closed. No modern Jew would think twice about his personal safety on Good Friday, and the charge of deicide has been deleted from the churches' teaching. But there still lurks a suspicion in the minds of some Jewish scholars that the sources of Christian anti-semitism have not yet been fully expunged, and that one day it could be revived. Sensitive to this, the churches have learnt to treat Good Friday as a day on which to tread warily, for there is still dangerous material in the New Testament record of Jesus's trial and crucifixion.

St Matthew's narrative is one of the most notorious examples. In the language of the Revised Standard Version, Pilate "saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water, and washed his hands before the crowd, saying 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' And all the people answered: 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified."

This is one of the plainest origins of the belief that all Jews should be held collectively guilty of the death of Jesus. The other three Gospels tell most of the story in the same way, but omit the damning riposte. But while all but St John refer to "the crowd" and "the people" as those clamouring for Jesus's death, he describes them as "the Jews". Taken together, the four versions of the Passion do indeed contain the basis for anti-semitism. Good preachers have to be conscious of the danger, and in the Roman Catholic Church, now, there is a standing instruction to priests to make it clear to people that the Jews, both of then and of today, must not be held accountable for the death of Jesus. The Good Friday liturgy has been officially rewritten to eliminate offensive references to the "perfidious Jews". So has the Oberammergau Passion Play, to soften the impression that Jesus's crucifixion was explicitly a Jewish crime. It now emphasizes that the guilt is universal, that every sin by every Christian is a contribution to the suffering and death of Jesus, because He died to atone for all sin everywhere.

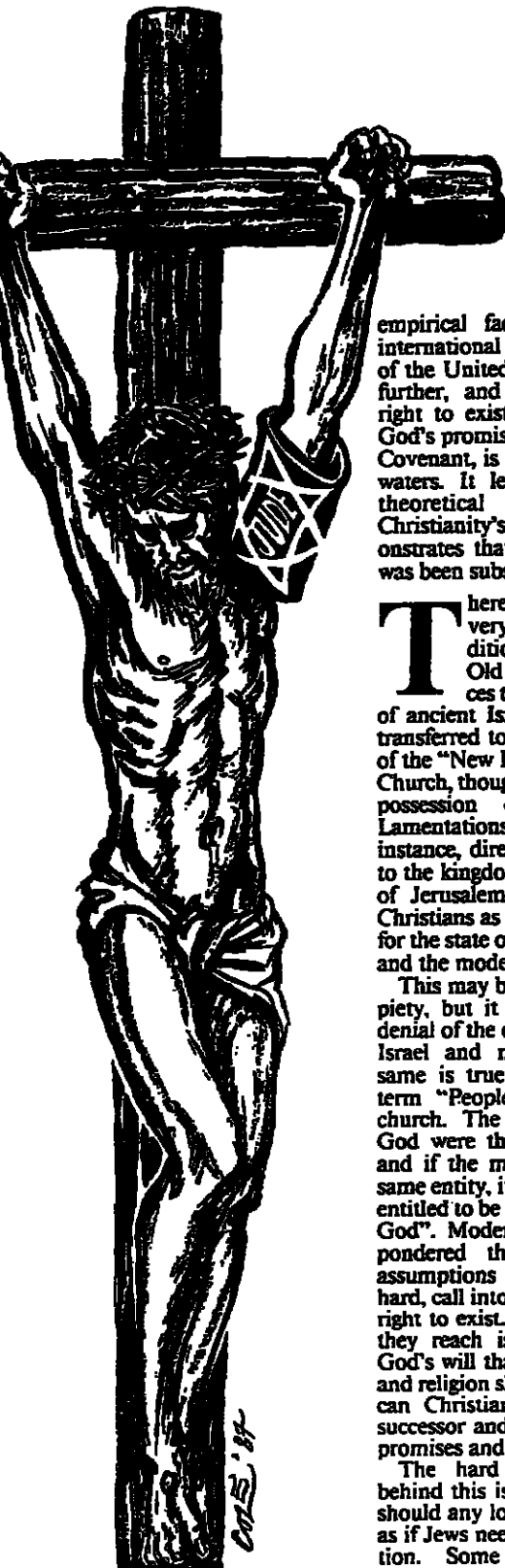
There has been nothing less than a complete revolution in Jewish-Christian relations since

the Second World War, almost entirely due to the horrified reaction of Christians to the ultimate consequences of anti-semitism as seen in the Holocaust. Religious anti-semitism paved the way for racial anti-semitism; the medieval demand of the Church that Jews identify themselves by wearing a badge in public was the precedent for the Nazi law requiring Jews to wear Star of David armbands.

A recent incident tells how much things have changed. A community of Polish nuns, wishing to pray for the millions of Jews and Gentiles alike, who died in the Auschwitz death camp, opened — in all innocence — a small convent there. There were immediate protests from Jews, for whom Auschwitz has become a sacred place of desolation. The stage seemed set for a classic inter-faith misunderstanding and a lot of ill will, with Christians demanding blithely to be told how anyone could possibly object, and Jews incensed that Auschwitz was being turned into a Christian shrine. Instead, church and Jewish leaders met to air their differences, and the nuns were promptly ordered by the church to close their convent. So, in the end, the new atmosphere of friendship between the faiths grew closer.

Britain has in recent memory been spared the worst excesses of religious anti-semitism. Even so, there are anti-Jewish atrocities and massacres in the distant past. Ipswich, for example, has one of the earliest recorded instances of the medieval "blood libel" — the myth that Jews held secret ritual sacrifices of Christian children. Britain was one of the first places to react to Nazi persecution of the Jews by setting up organizations such as the Council for Christians and Jews, a deliberate display of inter-faith solidarity under threat. Nationally and internationally such bodies continue to flourish, and the annual meeting of the British Council for Christians and Jews has become an annual ritualized display of this new climate, with the Chief Rabbi, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster sharing a platform.

But in spite of the change there is still work for them to do. As the worst and most obvious elements of anti-semitism in Christian practice have disappeared, a second layer of problems has surfaced. Christian relations with Zionism and Christian attitudes to the state of Israel can still raise Jewish hackles, for example. The search



for a Christian theology that is free of any hint of anti-semitism, even implicitly, is by no means complete. And the activities of fringe "born again" Christian Evangelical groups, determined to recruit young Jews, have caused alarm in the Jewish community.

Most Jews, whether in Israel or in the Diaspora, are Zionists, who believe not just that Israel has a right to exist as a Jewish homeland but also that the claim to it is grounded on God's gift of the Promised Land to the tribes Moses led out of Egypt. It is not difficult for Christians to accept modern Israel's existence as an

empirical fact, or its basis in international law and resolutions of the United Nations. But to go further, and believe in Israel's right to exist as a fulfilment of God's promises under the ancient Covenant, is to venture into deep waters. It leads into the more theoretical problem: whether Christianity's very existence demonstrates that the Old Covenant was subsumed into the New.

There is a long, and still very live, Christian tradition of regarding all Old Testament references to the political reality of ancient Israel as having been transferred to the spiritual reality of the "New Israel", the Christian Church, though not in terms of the possession of territory. The Lamentations of Jeremiah, for instance, directed by the prophet to the kingdom of Judah and city of Jerusalem, are still read by Christians as a poem of penitence for the state of the modern church and the modern world.

This may be good Good Friday piety, but it is also implicitly a denial of the continuity of ancient Israel and modern Israel. The same is true of the fashionable term "People of God" for the church. The original People of God were the ancient Israelites, and if the modern Jews are the same entity, it is they who are still entitled to be called "the People of God". Modern theologians have pondered the way such easy assumptions can, if pressed too hard, call into question the Jewish right to exist. And if the solution they reach is that it is indeed God's will that the Jewish people and religion should still exist, how can Christianity instead be the successor and fulfilment of those promises and prophecies?

The hard practical problem behind this is whether Christians should any longer believe and act as if Jews needed Christian salvation. Some very determined "campus crusade" groups certainly think so, and Jewish leaders have appealed to mainstream Christian leaders to protect their people from such depredations. The Christian response, with some perplexity at the underlying issue, has been to deplore the evangelists' methods. But the bigger question remains to be answered, and Jewish scholars are willing to press their point. It is too soon to say whether they will get the answer they want. That would require a further revolution, this time in Christianity's image of itself and in its understanding of the central message of Good Friday.

hence to manipulate by flattery. I had an editor who used to say at conference, cynically I thought, "Stroke him," meaning that the Foreign Editor should send a herogram to some insecure hack.

Eric Berne defined stroke in *Games People Play*: "By an extension of meaning, stroking may be employed colloquially to denote any act implying recognition of another's presence. Hence a stroke may be used as the fundamental unit of social action. An exchange of strokes constitutes a transaction, which is the unit of social intercourse." And much more preposterous shrink psychobabble.

But I do not think that kind of social intercourse is implied by the new "short strokes" from Washington. These sound to me as though they refer back to stroke as defined by Francis Grose in his *Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue* in 1785: "To take a stroke: to take a bout with a woman." It may be the latest thing; it is certainly cowboy; but I do not see the phrase catching on widely.

Adam Roberts

## Russia's ancient arms grievance

The Shultz talks in Moscow have shown a deep philosophical difference between East and West about nuclear weapons. The same divergence was displayed during Mrs Thatcher's visit. Mr Gorbachev reiterated his position that the goal of disarmament talks must be the elimination of nuclear weapons from the face of the earth; Mrs Thatcher in contrast vigorously pressed her view that nuclear deterrence will remain essential for Western Europe in the foreseeable future. In response, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman accused her of "nucleophobia" and an "old way of thinking".

Old it is, but so is Gorbachev's, for these differences go back centuries, reflecting different national experiences, different approaches to the place of arms in international relations, and different diplomatic styles. In 1816, after the Napoleonic invasion, Tsar Alexander I proposed "a simultaneous reduction of the armed forces of all kinds which the powers have brought into being to preserve the safety and independence of their peoples".

In reply, the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Castlereagh, said: "It is impossible not to perceive that the settlement of a scale of force for so many powers, under such different circumstances as to their relative means, frontiers, positions and facilities for rearming, presents a very complicated question for negotiation; that the means of preserving a system, if once created, are not without their difficulties, liable as all states are to partial necessities for an increase of force; and it is further to be considered that... in attempting to do too much, difficulties are rather brought into view than made to disappear."

A clear difference between Russian and British approaches was also apparent at the First Hague Peace Conference in 1899, proposed by Tsar Nicholas II partly because of his concern about the impact of technical advance on warfare. The Russian delegates sought "to put an end to the constantly increasing development of armaments", and were particularly worried about the Western development of field guns and machine guns.

The Western powers were suspicious of Russia's motives and unhappy about its superiority in numbers of soldiers — a superiority which could be useful if Russian armies did not face modern weapons.

Admiral Sir John Fisher, the British naval delegate at The Hague, was a strong believer in deterrence. His words strike a jarring note today when we possess even more frightening weapons than those he had in mind: "If you rub it in both at home and abroad that you are ready for instant war with every unit of your strength in the first line, and

intend to be first in, and hit your enemy in the belly, and kick him when he is down... then people will keep clear of you."

The US delegate received instructions along lines which pre-echo current American attitudes to Star Wars and the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty: "The expediency of restraining the inventive genius of our people in the direction of devising means of defence is by no means clear, and considering the temptations to which men and nations may be exposed in time of conflict, it is doubtful if an international agreement of this nature would prove effective."

These differences in national styles have persisted throughout this century. If anything, they have been reinforced by such major events as two world wars, the Bolshevik revolution and the invention of nuclear weapons.

The idea of "general and complete disarmament" was injected into international diplomacy in 1927 by Maxim Litvinov, head of the Soviet delegation at the Geneva disarmament talks. Litvinov explained that he made this sweeping proposal because discussions on more limited measures had got bogged down in technical problems.

At that time, and later, the representatives of the Western nations felt they could not publicly oppose such an attractive proposition as "general and complete disarmament", but their memoranda and memoirs often reveal a reasoned scepticism as to whether this goal is attainable.

Both ways of thinking displayed at the Moscow talks have their faults. The Soviet way reflects a genuine fear of war and seems to offer a better world, but has never really faced up to the critiques of general and complete disarmament. The British way reflects a tough-minded analysis but offers few crumbs of comfort for those who seek to reform a divided and over-armed world.

Both of today's superpowers are heirs to traditions of disapproval of old fashioned power politics: complete nuclear disarmament is the goal of both their leaders. It may seem curious that it has been Mrs Thatcher, the representative of a much less powerful state, who has most openly accepted the facts of power politics, but it certainly conforms with national tradition.

The rival national traditions need not prevent limited arms control agreements, but the difference in philosophical approach will undoubtedly surface again. The talks on nuclear weapons in Europe threaten to be as complicated in 1987 as the Geneva talks about which Litvinov complained in 1927.

© Times Newspapers, 1987.  
The author is Montague Professor of International Relations at Oxford University.

Henry Stanhope

## This is worse than a crisis

It is time we started worrying about the fall in unemployment. There is still no end in sight to it. Eight months since it began — and if there is not a run on the pound by midsummer, I for one will be very much surprised.

Manufacturing output has risen by 10 per cent since 1983, exports have gone up by 4 per cent since 1981, and after seven years' steady growth a higher proportion of the adult population is at work than in other major European countries. Can this really be the nation we grew up in?

One might think that a fall in the number of jobs would be welcomed on all sides. Before that idea gains ground I should point out that it won't be welcome down the Walworth Road for a start, because it must be eating like woodworm into the Labour Party's election platform.

Any day now, moreover, the first economic guru of spring will come along, shaking his head, to tell us that it's bad for the rest of Britain too. It's rather like the wavering price of sterling. One grew up thinking that a rising pound was good for you, like Guinness. Then industry began grumbling about the impact on their exports, because it made British goods dearer. So were they relieved when the value of our national currency started sliding like a sow on a skating rink? Not a bit of it — because that put up the price of imports which we needed to make the exports which we sold back to the countries which had sold us the imports in the first place. It all seemed so much easier in the old days.

Then again, take disarmament. A few years ago one might have thought that a treaty banning nuclear weapons on both sides would make everyone very happy — except perhaps the people who manufactured them. So is Europe cock-a-hoop now that the prospect looks a real one? Of course not — because that would mean that the Russians would invade us with their tanks or strangle us with their bare hands. It is a good thing somebody saw the danger in time. I seem to remember that when Britain was thinking about joining the Common Market, someone had the clever idea of conducting a poll among the *cognoscenti* at the London School of Economics, just to see whether it was a good thing or a bad thing for the country. I

offer no prizes for guessing the result — which was of course that roughly 50 per cent thought it was a good move while 50 per cent said it was a bad one. All of which goes to prove that if you put all the nation's economists in a barrel and pushed it gently over Beachy Head, the impact on the nation's well-being would be minimal.

Now one of the things that unemployment has in common with the national balance of payments and disarmament is that it involves plenty of statistics — which are putty in the hands of politicians. I therefore view the figures with some scepticism.

If the number of jobs is going up I would like to know where they all are. Whenever I watch the *New at Ten*, Sir Alastair Burnet, or his quarry, lists a large number of factories that have closed in the last two hours or so — great plants with smoking chimneys which not so long ago, in the heyday of the Empire, were selling steam rollers to the Gold Coast or zip fasteners to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands — who no doubt are now selling them back to us.

In the "jobs gained" part of the programme we hear that Mr Bhindranwale is looking for an assistant (Thursdays only) for his corner shop in Kirkwall, Macdonalds are opening another palace of *haute cuisine* along the Edgware Road and want a couple of sweepers-out or, on a particularly good day, a factory making paper doilies is opening on an industrial estate in Slough. In other words, on any profit and loss account, the losses seem to have it.

The calm reassurance from Whitehall on these matters is that we have turned from being a manufacturing country into one which provides services instead. But precisely whom are we supposed to be servicing? There are of course the tourists — Americans from Iowa and parties of aggressive French schoolchildren, crowding on the District Line these days and booking up all the seats for *Cats*. (I still haven't seen it.) This is good news for such well-established British firms as Hilton Hotels and Coca-Cola, or for theatre usherettes. But is it good news for the rest of us?

Well, on the one hand... on the other hand... as economists so rightly put it, I have a feeling they are waiting to say that about unemployment.





1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

## BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Recounting the hardships and the horrors of their five months under siege at the Bourj al-Barajneh refugee camp in Beirut, Dr Pauline Cutting and nurse Susan Wighton eschewed the label "heroes". The real heroes and heroines, Dr Cutting says, are the people of the camps. Her modesty was, as the world has discovered over the past few days, characteristic, but it was also, in an important respect, inappropriate.

The Palestinians in the camps, like so many caught up in the political vortex of Lebanon, have shown courage in extreme adversity. They have shown forbearance. But they have had few choices. Dr Cutting and Miss Wighton had the freedom to choose, and they chose the harder way.

They volunteered to work among the Palestinians for a medical charity. As a surgeon, Dr Cutting could aspire to a secure and well-paid position in a British hospital. She accepted little more than £100 a week to work in Lebanon. Once the Shi'ite Amal militia laid siege to the camp where she worked, she chose to remain, the only surgeon, until the siege was lifted.

As a foreigner outside the political conflict, she would have been allowed to leave. She stayed. But she also chose to publicize the deprivations

caused by the siege and the conditions inside her hospital, a choice which brought conditions in the camps of Beirut to the attention of the world. The publicity may or may not have hastened the lifting of the siege. It certainly exposed Dr Cutting to considerable personal risk.

She and Miss Wighton will be the first to insist that at the time they had no choice, that they felt an over-riding duty to lessen the suffering they saw before them. They will also say, and they will be correct, that they are just two of the many Britons who have volunteered to serve in harsh or troubled parts of the world; that the difference is only in the international attention paid to them.

Such attention should not, however, be so easily dismissed as undue focusing on one or two outstanding individuals. Nor should it be thought undesirable just because political considerations — in the form of the Palestinian fighters who find refuge in the Beirut camps — may intrude. Rather it should be welcomed as an opportunity for us to recognize the value of such medical and humanitarian work and to acknowledge the many people whose contribution might otherwise go unacknowledged.

This country has a long and honourable tradition of voluntary service, both at home and in distant parts. It is a tradition of which we can be proud and which serves as a continuing inspiration. Today, there are Britons serving, for negligible financial reward, all over the world.

Volunteers, wherever they serve, make many sacrifices. Some risk their personal safety or their health, or both. They may be parted from friends and family for months, even years at a time. Above all, perhaps, they sacrifice some peace of mind. Whoever has experienced extreme circumstances, whether of poverty, of oppression, or violence will never forget it. They will carry with them forever their own images of suffering.

Yet they will also have the satisfaction of knowing that they chose to do something about it, that when challenged they did not fail, and that their fortitude has inspired others. Dr Cutting has been succeeded at Bourj al-Barajneh by another British surgeon, Dr Sue Chai Ang. She has worked in the camps of Beirut before and has chosen to go in the knowledge of the conditions she will face. She leaves family and friends behind in Britain. She too is a heroine — one of many.

## THE FEVER TAKES ITS COURSE

It is easier to whip up a xenophobic clamour for a trade war than to quieten it down. As we warned at the time, that was always the danger of the anti-Japanese sabre-rattling in the House of Commons three weeks ago and the false expectations it created. Reason was then a lonely voice. The frightening implications of the breakdown of multilateral trade treaties are now beginning to be understood more widely, especially in industry, where the effects would first be felt.

The most immediate danger stems from the outbreak of hostilities between the United States and Japan. Punitive discriminatory tariffs are due to be imposed today in the United States on a wide range of electronically-related Japanese goods, in contravention of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Several Common Market nations, fearing the goods might be diverted to Europe, have urged the European Commission to renounce its obligations, under Gatt, not to set quotas or to discriminate between nations by tariff or other barriers. Action will be pressed at the forthcoming meeting of Common Market foreign ministers.

Trade and nations have prospered in the post-war world behind international treaties to promote unfettered — if never totally free — trade. The fabric of those rules has been progressively battered, undermined and eroded over the past fifteen years. Once they are formally broken, however, there is no knowing how

far the protectionist tide of special interests, nationalism and state control will flow.

Even the Confederation of British Industry was in danger of countenancing trade sanctions against Japan in support of members' special interests. Now the leaders of the CBI have seen where that might lead. The CBI has come out clearly and unequivocally against sanctions.

At a parochial level, many British companies realize that they have only limited gains to make at home or elsewhere in Europe from further restrictions on Japanese imports, let alone financial sanctions. At the same time, many of the best companies now have growing interests in Japan.

More crucially, British industry has always depended on exports. Britain and Germany export a higher percentage of output than the United States or Japan. Britain's international companies know that they would bear the full brunt of any general breakdown in international trading relations. British free traders are pushing their heads above the parapet. But it could already be too late.

As soon as the Government looked for weapons to attack trade with Japan, it found only small arms and rapidly realized that the arsenal lay in Brussels. Britain took its grievances to the European Community and found a suspiciously warm welcome.

The European Commission has a protectionist set of mind, not surprisingly for a bureaucracy nurtured on the Common Agricultural Policy. It

bankers for managed trade, for negotiated deals to achieve "balance" between the industrial trading blocs.

In the past, Britain has sometimes found it convenient to hide behind European protectionism, for instance against textiles from developing countries and Japanese consumer electronics. More often, however, the competitive open-trade alliance of Germany, the Netherlands and Britain has had a restraining influence on the European protectionist ideology of France and Italy.

The Commission has immediately taken Britain's change of stance as the green light for a much stronger drive to managed trade. That drive is to start with the populist cause of trade with Japan. The Commission sees balance as the goal of trade. The existence of Japan's trade surplus is therefore seen as sufficient evidence that its markets are not open.

That should set alarm bells ringing in Germany, which has a trade surplus, proportionately, on the same scale as Japan. It should also give the British government pause for thought. Free trade and protection are incompatible rivals. Britain should not join the protectionist party. At the Council of Ministers, it should press for faster progress on freeing the internal market. It should press the current Gatt cases against Japanese restrictions on imported spirits and the US/Japan microchip pact that set off the current trade conflict. No further action is necessary or desirable.

## IN TIME OF DISASTER

On April 8, we published on the Spectrum page an article by Mrs Sonda Lawrence, a neighbour of one of the bereaved of the Zeebrugge disaster. It told how, on learning that the neighbour's daughter had been on the ferry, Mrs Lawrence set out in search of information. It was a story of cur police on the emergency lines, misunderstandings, conflicting information and delays. The only clear advice the police seemed able to give was to sit and wait.

In a letter which we published a few days later, the reaction of the Chief Constable of Kent to Mrs Lawrence's article was understandably pained. His force had had to cope with the greatest crisis most of them had ever confronted. It must have been hard for the Chief Constable to be told that there had been what Mrs Lawrence had called "a total lack of sympathy by those answering the telephones." Doubtless, there were, in the Chief Constable's mind, many examples of the Kent force's kindness and understanding on that terrible night — examples which had gone unpublicized.

Lapses on the part of some of the police are therefore explicable. The hours after the ferry capsized were chaotic. It was not like an air disaster in

which the identities are known of the passengers who boarded the craft. Cross channel ferries do not keep passenger lists. Some highly distraught people would have been on those emergency lines, demanding information which simply would not be made available for some time, perhaps for days.

Whatever the excuses for individual failures, one thing stands out. No authority in Britain had enough information about what was going on. Ferry disasters are rare. But disasters are not. Very many of them share one characteristic: that is, a large number of people being involved in a tragedy, and no immediate indication of who — individually — they are.

That is true of a big train crash. It was true of the Bradford football fire. Some system is needed both to make known this information as quickly as possible, and meanwhile to tell relatives what the chances are of their loved ones having been victims.

There could be units for the sort of emergencies likely to affect particular areas. For example, the unit in South Wales or South Yorkshire would have special knowledge of pit disasters. The units on the south coast would be experienced in disasters in the

channel. In the latter case, the unit would be likely to know whether someone setting out from, say, London at a certain time would have been likely to have caught a particular ferry. Such units could not be expected to exist solely to cope with disasters which might never happen. They would work most of the time in the existing emergency and voluntary services, and would be under the direction of local authorities. But they would be trained in such skills as dealing on the telephone with distraught relatives.

The units would receive strategic direction at national level. Relatives far from the scene of a disaster should be able to go to their local police station, have the names of missing persons put into a computer, and exchange information from the unit in the area of the disaster.

Kent did have an emergency unit dealing with the capsizing at Zeebrugge. The Kent Chief Constable's letter indicated that national coordination exists in embryo, since he pointed out that officers from West Yorkshire Police, with experience of the problems caused by the Bradford fire, were flown to Zeebrugge, and kind of action should be built on.

## How Britain loses overseas

From Mr Tom Stacey  
Sir, Mrs Thatcher comes to Kensington wondering why we British import so many things we can just as well make here.

Well, part of my life is presiding over a company which publishes high quality books in colour. Most of these we print in Japan or Hong Kong rather than England. The prices quoted abroad are not so different from those quoted here and Britain's colour printing quality can be as high as anywhere in the world. So why?

A price quoted (after 10 days and two telexed reminders) by a British printer seldom (if ever) means what it says. The final bill is nearly always between 10 to 20 per cent more than the quote. Hidden in the small print will be a semi-legible clause saying that all prices are subject to wage rises occurring during the project. And on go all manner of extras.

Then, we are usually working to a strict schedule. The date for finished copies has a meaning, sometimes attached to a penalty. To printers in our English hills and fens, however, a schedule is a dreamy concept.

"Oh, Mr Stacey, the (sub-contractor's) binding machine has broken down." Or, "We've run out of cover cloth..." And then, we often require a precise print run — say, 10,000 copies. But if it's a British printer, to be sure of 10,000 you must agree to accept as many as 11,500 — and pay for any extra above the 10,000 that might be produced.

In the distant abroad, a price quoted (within 48 hours of getting our telex) is the price invoiced. Likewise, a date, like Gertrude's rose, is a date is a date. And a quantity similarly a quantity.

We have published beautiful books printed here, but almost always at the cost of our enthusiasm. Sometimes I have offered to address luncheon staff meetings at British printers, to tell them about the great beyond which has been responsible for the loss to this country of the bulk of the colour book business. My offer is declined, usually with a little wince.

Yours faithfully,  
TOM STACEY, Director,  
Stacey International,  
128 Kensington Church Street, W8.  
April 9.

From Mr Philip Colfox  
Sir, Your report (April 10) that "low commodity prices and depressed oil revenue have wiped

first five of which (rounded) are 40329.

As it happens it is easy to work out the number of noughts at the end of 26!, since clearly this is the same as the number of fives appearing as prime factors in the product 26 x 25 x ... x 5, 10, 15 and 20 have one five each and 25 has two giving six fives altogether, so 26! ends in only six noughts, not 26 as Mr Fyfe alleged.

Just in case you really want to know, the correct answer is: 26! = 403,291,461,126,605,635,584,000,000.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD CROSSLEY,  
University of York,  
Department of Mathematics,  
Heslington, York.  
April 6.

## Care of X-rays

From Dr Martin L. Wastie  
Sir, In reply to Mr Dussek (April 7), who suggests that patients should look after their own X-rays, perhaps I could mention the system that pertains in Sweden, where lost X-rays are virtually unknown.

In Swedish hospitals all X-rays are stored within the radiology department. Clinicians start their day's work with a round in the radiology department, where all the previous day's films are displayed and discussed, following which they are stored in the

archive. This arrangement finds favour with both clinician and radiologist and obviates those frequent fruitless searches for X-rays which are so common in English hospitals.

However, the Swedish system does reflect the much greater expenditure on their health service compared to our own. Yours faithfully,  
M. L. WASTIE,  
(Consultant radiologist),  
University Hospital,  
Department of Radiology,  
Queen's Medical Centre,  
Nottingham.  
April 8.

Where is the ecumenical sensitivity in this? What sort of "recognition" of his Anglican ministry is it? Pope Leo XIII's unscrupulous and unconvincing Bull *Apostolicae Curiae*, rejecting Anglican orders for political reasons, is regarded by ecumenically-minded Roman Catholics as dubious, but even those who don't feel able to leave it in limbo are content to describe Anglican orders as irregular rather than certainly invalid, and the worst they would demand would be conditional reordination.

There is no "hurt" when people change churches according to their conscience. There is grievous hurt when RC denials of Anglican orders is accepted by Anglicans because of "mutual trust". Bishop Murphy-O'Connor's damnable "sensitively leads him to call Santer "bishop" when he believes he's a layman.

Yours etc,  
CHAD VARAH,  
St Stephen's Church,  
Walbrook, EC4.

## Oxford-Moscow link

From Mr Archie Brown  
Sir, It is a pity that your Moscow correspondent, Christopher Walker (April 4), spoiled a well-deserved tribute to Britain's Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Sir Bryan Cartledge, by repeating a slur on the college in which Sir Bryan was a graduate student and, briefly, a research fellow in the 1950s.

Mr Walker tells us that St Antony's College, Oxford, is "regarded by Soviet officials as an M16 training ground". I find it hard to believe that any Soviet official whose business it is to know about these things could be so ill-informed. After all, it was

out demand (for Land Rovers) in Third World countries" is an interesting hypothesis. Most travellers in Third World countries and many alert observers in England would speculate that demand has not been wiped out but that a considerable proportion of the market has been lost to recent and growing Japanese competition.

My company does most of its trade with Nepal. This is a country that is surrounded on three sides by India. One would have thought the British would still retain a small amount of trade influence. Not only is there, to my knowledge, no dealer for British cars in Nepal, but in spite of the 200 per cent import duty on all manufactured goods, almost every private car on the road is a Toyota.

If the Japanese can have success in face of such obstacles we all have much to fear. Needless to say in a country where tarmed roads are hard to come by Land Rovers are very rare.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP COLFOX,  
Managing Director,  
Symonds House Ltd,  
1 Mill Lane, Symondsburys,  
Bridport, Dorset.  
April 10.

From the Chairman of Drillfield Engineering Co Ltd  
Sir, I have noted with interest the reports in your columns of the future arising from all sides of the House of Commons concerning the gross imbalance of trade between Britain and Japan.

I recollect no such concern when the motor-cycle industry went to the wall, or more lately when our motor, radio and domestic appliance manufacturers were devastated.

The way that politicians of all persuasions have flown to the aid of bankers, currency dealers and stockbrokers confirms me in a long-held view that nobody in the House of Commons has much sympathy with, or knowledge of, those of us who actually make things.

It should come as no great surprise to the City that if they now hope for the support of people like me, they would be well advised not to hold their breath.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN FIELD, Chairman,  
Drillfield Engineering Co Ltd,  
Scott Works, Well Spring Close,  
Caryon Road,  
Atherstone, Warwickshire.  
April 6.

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Yours etc,  
CHAD VARAH,  
St Stephen's Church,  
Walbrook, EC4.

not only Sir Bryan who studied in St Antony's in the 1950s. So did Mr Viktor Popov, Mr Leonid Zamiatin's predecessor as Soviet Ambassador to Britain.

In early 1985, following Mr Gorbachev's successful visit to Britain the previous December, Mr Popov revisited the college and he is, of course, just one of many Soviet guests (including visiting speakers) whom we have been glad to welcome.

In the past, virtually every foreign institution in which Soviet studies are conducted was accused at one time or another in a Soviet newspaper article of being engaged in some kind of espionage. The turn of St Antony's came round from time to time, though I have

## Alliance strategy under scrutiny

From Mr Neville Sandelson  
Sir, Your leading article (April 14) draws attention to contradictory elements in the Alliance strategy. These arise largely from the very different political preferences of the two groups at present comprising the Alliance.

Confused strategies inevitably result from the continuous effort required to gloss over irreconcilable viewpoints. The need for constant patchwork was exemplified by the internal dispute over defence policy and the disunity within the Alliance on central issues lies beneath a thin pre-election surface.

Surely the reality is that the mass Labour vote will abandon its traditional attachment only when it is convinced by a third successive debacle that Labour has finally lost the confidence of the nation and, with that party's profound internal divisions likely to erupt within its crumbling edifice after the election, is unlikely ever to return to power.

That happy circumstance for Britain can only be achieved by maximising the Government's victory and Labour's defeat in the coming election. Only in that event will there come the opportunity for a more broadly based Alliance with coherent policies to establish itself under Dr Owen's leadership as a credible Opposition and an acceptable alternative Government.

It is for that reason that, as a social democrat, I have consistently pressed over a long period of time for an alternative strategy to that pursued by Dr Owen and his Alliance colleagues.

Yours etc,  
NEVILLE SANDELSON,  
Goldsmith Building,  
Temple EC4.  
April 14.

## The voter's choice

From Mr Gai Eaton  
Sir, Mr Hattersley (April 6) identifies the principal goal of the Labour party in terms of "freedom and fairness". Common sense suggests that we can enjoy one or other of these advantages. We cannot have both together. No doubt Mr Hattersley is passionately sincere, but we have a right to ask for something more than sincerity from those who canvass for our vote.

We have a right to demand logic and realism, and to reject slogans which threaten our freedom and are less than fair to an electorate seeking the best way ahead. The implementation of "fairness" requires compulsions and restraints which leave little space for freedom. A realist would invite us to choose between these mutually incompatible alternatives and to vote according to our choice.

Yours faithfully,  
G. EATON,  
Travellers' Club,  
Pall Mall, SW1.

## Arresting an MP

From Mr C. H. Rolph  
Sir, Two black marks for your normally reliable diarist today (April 9).

One, What he calls "the traditional freedom from arrest for members of Parliament" is not merely "more apparent than real". In Mr Harvey Proctor's case it is non-existent. It never applied to arrests on criminal charges (or, for that matter, proceedings in bankruptcy or contempt of court). And even for civil arrest it operates only within the Palace of Westminster.

Two, In saying that, even so, the "privilege" has been "honoured mainly in the breach" he is misapplying what Hamlet was really saying to Horatio (scene IV, line 14). The apologetic Prince was complaining that the hellish row going on outside the castle was a local custom that it would be better, in his opinion, to breach than to observe.

Yours sincerely,  
C. H. ROLPH,  
Rushett Edge, Rushett Common,  
Bramley,  
Guildford, Surrey.  
April 10.

## Maltum in parvo

From Mrs A. A. Kirlick  
Sir, While not wishing to criticise Henry Stanhope's timely words of warning (feature, April 3) to anyone thinking of investing the odd £24,750,000 in a painting, I must question one point he makes. Can he really mean that he finds a Lieder recital potentially more boring than the Ring cycle?

As one who (pace Bernard Levin) tires of the latter well before it is one eighth under way, I would like to put in a good word for perfection in a small space, which will bear endless repetition without inducing boredom.

Yours faithfully,  
A. A. KIRLICK,  
26 Warwick Road,  
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

seen no such article for years.

"Nowadays, only the most 'unreconstructed' of Soviet journalists or officials could come out with the nonsense Mr Walker relates. Indeed, one of the many encouraging trends of most recent years has been an increasing Soviet willingness to acknowledge as entirely legitimate the objective study of their system by foreign scholars. In the overwhelming majority of cases, the latter are neither, on the one hand, members or supporters of a Western communist party nor, on the other, members or affiliates of any intelligence agency.

Yours faithfully,  
ARCHIE BROWN,  
St Antony's College, Oxford.



## ON THIS DAY

APRIL 17 1897

Charles Gore (1853-1932) whose sermon appears below, became a canon at Westminster in 1884 and bishop successively of Worcester, Birmingham and Oxford

## GOOD FRIDAY.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

... In the afternoon Canon Gore again conducted the "Three Hours' Service," which was inaugurated at the Abbey last year. There was a very large congregation. Canon Gore delivered seven discourses on the last words of Jesus Christ, and each discourse was followed by silent meditation, a short prayer, and the singing of a hymn. In his opening discourse the preacher said the last words of Our Saviour were true words, which expressed the innermost realities of His mortal life, and of His perfect human character. Those of them who had had most experience of human deathbeds knew that the words spoken at the end were not always real. He had known of one who, on what seemed to be her deathbed, had expressed in conventional phrases a feeling of the utmost devotion, but afterwards, when unexpectedly she recovered, she confessed that she had spoken those words only because she could not bear that those around her should think ill of her after she had gone. Strange but true it was, that in a moment when earthly things were passing away, a human being could cling to appearances. He prayed that God would give them grace when they came to die to enable them to speak real, true words. The last words of Our Saviour expressed the great central excellencies of our human life. What were the three great virtues discovered by Christianity? They were faith, hope, and love or charity. The great virtues which man had agreed to recognize before Christ came into the world were Justice, temperance, fortitude, and prudence. Our Lord, as the Son of Man, took unto Himself all that was excellent in humanity, and they would find in His last utterances the expression of those seven virtues. In the moment of shuddering anguish, when Our Lord was nailed to the cross, He cried "Father, forgive them; they know not what they do." That was the word of faith. Faith was that capacity in man which, behind all that seemed meaningless, useless, cruel, and unjust, penetrated to that God who was the Author and Sustainer of all things. Faith believed in the Fatherhood of God, and in man also saw something good. God had made all men, therefore there must be good in them; what was bad in them was only the misuse of powers and faculties which God had given them. "They know not what they do" when doing evil. They knew how continued and bitter disappointment quenched in man the capacity and faculty for faith; but our Lord had borne every kind of disappointment, and yet faith was undimmed in His human soul. They knew how pain of body and weariness and exhaustion long-continued quenched in man the capacity for feeling anything, and how we seemed to become as dull and hard as stones because we were sick, weary, or exhausted; but in spite of all His moral and physical trials our Lord retained in His human soul unchanged the energy of faith. ... The joys of marriage, of home, of friendship, of success, the delight in beauty, our experiences of suffering, disappointment, pain and sickness, self-denial and self-sacrifice, all led us to believe in God our Father, to believe as Christ believed, and as His saints had believed in extremities of anguish and grief. Let them cast out all scepticism from their hearts. Sometimes a scepticism existed caused by a feeling of difficulty about some particular point in the Christian religion; their faith admitted of free examination, and if such scepticism existed let them examine that point about which they doubted. But more often their scepticism was only caused by a lack of confidence in their Father's love, and a feeling of worldliness...

## Changing the week

From Mr Roger H. Vernon  
Sir, I must disagree with Mr J. W. Sweetman (April 6). He advocates the abolition of woeful Wednesday rather than Monday, as suggested by Magnus Pyke (letter, March 26).

However, the loss of Wednesday would cause additional grief to those of my colleagues who, though foul of face, are now able to save appearances when refusing appointments on Wednesday for fear of cutting short their weekends.

Yours truly,  
ROGER H. VERNON,  
31 Westfield Road, Edgbaston,  
Birmingham, West Midlands.

From Mr Kevin Lees  
Sir, I read with horror and despair Mr Sweetman's suggestion to rid the world of Wednesday children. What a terrible disaster for us woeful ones! Why not let the "loving and giving" prove their worth and give up their day to benefit us all with Dr Pyke's Utopia?

Yours faithfully  
KEVIN LEES,  
1 Oak Tree View,  
Farnham, Surrey.

## Additional bonus?

From Sir Brian Batsford  
Sir, If the American Government do decide to demolish the US Embassy in Moscow (reports, April 8 and 9) architecturally it would be no bad thing. Yours sincerely,  
BRIAN COOK BATSFORD,  
Lamb House,  
Rye, East Sussex.











## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

## THEATRE

### LONDON

★ **THE AMEN CORNER:** Transfer from the Theatre of the Americas. A powerful drama of a Harlem preacher facing revolt in congregation and family. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA:** Staged for the first time at the National. Peter Hall directs Anthony Hopkins and Judi Dench. Sold out until June. National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (01-928 2255). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS:** Neil Simon's vivid recollection of a Brighton childhood. Waves of emotion. Dorothy Tutin in an NT transfer. Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 6404). Mon-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **COURT IN THE ACT:** Gabrielle Drake snarls Michael Denison, Lee Montague and an energetic 1912 French farce. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 2294). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **DECADES:** Revival of Steven Berkoff's hilarious story of the upper classes. With Linda Marlowe. Wyndham's Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 3028). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **DIARY OF A SOMEBODY:** Dramatized version of Joe Orton's first play. Staged for the first time at the National. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 2294). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **HEAVEN BENT, HELL BOUND:** Excellent adaptation of a classic Spanish drama. Hermit, out of the box and the Devil. Gripping performances. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 2294). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **HIGH SOCIETY:** The show of the film. Staged with a new cast. Victoria Palace Theatre, Strand, SW1 (01-228 8828). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **SPIN OF THE WHEEL:** Musical about a dodecahedron to revive an ailing show that backfires on the dodecahedron. Comedy Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-830 2578). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **THE TOURIST GUIDE:** Intense emotional play about male and female in Greece by successful German playwright Bodo Strauss. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, N1 (01-939 4404). Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **WHAT ABOUT LUV:** Mari Caine in the transfer of amusing musical version of Murray Schlegel's Luv. Three B-movie lovers keep meeting on a New York bridge. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE YOUR... TROUSERS?** Man wakes up in wrong bed to find clothes stolen by burglar. Take it from the play. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **WHEN I WAS A GIRL I USED TO SCREAM AND SHOUT:** Germaine Greer and Julie Walters as two adolescent girls eagerly entering the remarkable world of Scotland. Generally successful transfer from the Bush. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **WOMAN IN MIND:** Poignant Ayckbourn drama with award-winning Julie Walters as a wife at the end of her tether. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** The Business of Murder. Mayfair Theatre, 01-629 3033. Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **THE ASSAULT:** Fone Roderick's thriller about a woman's best friend. Cannon Theatre, 01-935 9772. Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **HAUNTED HONEYMOON:** PG: A comedy about a man who is haunted by the ghost of his wife. Cannon Theatre, 01-935 9772. Tue-Fri 7.10-9.45pm, Sat 8.15-10.45pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm, £5-£15.

★ **BLUE VELVET:** David Lynch's surreal tale about the placid surface of an American small town being violently ripped apart. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS:** PG: A musical about a boy, a girl and a man-eating plant. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **OVER THE TOP:** PG: Perfect for the drama featuring Sylvester Stallone as an arm-wrestling truck driver who tries to get to know his neglected son. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **PERSONAL SERVICES:** PG: Terry Jones's outrageous comedy, inspired by the life of Cynthia Payne, stars Julie Walters. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **THE FOURTH PROTOCOL:** PG: Old-fashioned entertainment based on Frederick Forsyth's novel about a Soviet plan to sabotage NATO with a covertly assembled army. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **CRIMES OF THE HEART:** PG: Jessica Lange, Sissy Spacek, and Diane Keaton in Sam Shepard's star in this black farce set in the Southern US. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

★ **CROCODILE DUNDEE:** PG: Australia's smash hit, with Paul Hogan as a crocodile hunter, is being transferred to the West End. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 8888). Tue-Fri 8.15-11.05pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, Sun 7.30-9.30pm. Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

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## THE ARTS

## Nice work

And your starter for 10 is, which Yorkshire-bred son of a Pakistani sometimes presents himself as "Made in Japan" when he takes his cue, but mostly not? An *Ordinary Joe* (BBC1) reminded those who needed reminding that Smokin' Joe Johnson — him of the darkly endearing chubby cheeks, spiv footwear and whirling-derby eyebrows — is still World Snooker champion, still croons for his group.

## TELEVISION

Made in Japan, and is still one of the nicest winners around.

But poor Joe has had to content himself recently with being one of the nicest losers around, not having won anything since the world championship. Indeed, he's hardly got through to any of the major tournaments. Which is why following him around with cameras for a year didn't make for much of a programme.

You can't but like the lad, though. It didn't even seem amiss that he declared, "I don't like change much", in his new sponsored Mercedes the size of a bus while on a trip away from his new and vast mansion.

There was a time, of course, when Easter didn't inspire thoughts of coloured balls on green baize, but rather of more spiritual matters, such as the Aldermaston marches. The *Forty Minutes* programme *Troublesome People* (BBC2), an appropriately gentle account of British pacifism, included some classic footage of Aldermaston and the spray of ironic Bertrand Russell as well as horrific first-hand accounts of the treatment of conscientious objectors in the First World War.

Andrew Hislop

## Last triumph of a friendly ogre

The anti-semitism of Richard Wagner is as well-known as his musical genius. In a new book, however, Rudolph Sabor offers an alternative view. Here he quotes from letters written by Hermann Levi — the Jewish conductor of the first performance of Wagner's last work, *Parsifal* — to his father

It takes six years until the Festspielhaus can reopen, in the summer of 1882. Wagner has only seven months left, but he lives to see *Parsifal*, his final work. Its conductor, Hermann Levi, writes to his father, chief rabbi in Giessen:

12.3.1882  
"Do not worry about my salary in Bayreuth. It will all work out. Our orchestra members get 250 marks per month, free travel, and board and lodging. I shall ask for 500 marks, for that is all I need, and I do not wish to make a profit out of Bayreuth."

Can a Jew trust Wagner?, asks the rabbi. Levi reassures him:

13.4.1882  
"Wagner is the best and noblest of men... I thank God daily for the privilege to be close to such a man. It is the most beautiful experience of my life."

Levi is deeply moved by *Parsifal*, by Wagner, by the whole Bayreuth atmosphere. He tells his father:

July 1882  
"The rehearsals are in full swing and promise a stupendous performance. You cannot imagine what I had to go through until the cast had been finalized and until the *Meister* expressed his satisfaction with me. The orchestra is incredibly beautiful: 32 violins, 12 celli, 12 violas. The chorus, too, is fine. All this week we rehearsed the first act. Tonight is the first full dress rehearsal."

"The Wagners are so good to me that I am quite touched. I arrived here on June 12 and from that day until July 1 I have lunched and dined every day at Wahnfried."

Frequently I called at noon and only left at midnight. Apart from me there were two other daily guests, Joukovsky, a painter who has designed the scenery and is a great friend of mine, and the young Baron Stein, lecturer in philosophy at Halle.

"In the evenings the *Meister* read to us, and we had the most absorbing discussions. Never have I lived through a happier period than those three weeks."

"Now, however, things are rather different. At nine in the morning I walk to the theatre which is half an hour's walk from the town, and return at eight in the evening. I lunch at the restaurant which is next to the theatre, then I sleep for an hour, but the rest is work. Three hours with the orchestra, three hours with the singers, and a further three hours for meetings and discussions with the technical staff and the chorus master."

At the conclusion of a triumphant festival season Levi informs his father:

31.8.1882  
"After the performance two days ago I collapsed, slept all through the next day and today until one o'clock — really slept, in bed — have just finished lunch with Wagner and am now feeling myself again."

"The final performance was magnificent. During the transformation music the *Meister* appeared in the pit, twisted and turned his way up to my desk, took the baton from my hand and conducted the performance to the end. I remained by his side, because I was afraid he might slip up, but my fears were quite



Master and admirer: Richard Wagner (left), sketched the day before he died, and the conductor Hermann Levi

groundless — his conducting was so assured that he might have been nothing but a *Kapellmeister* all his life.

"At the end the audience burst into applause which defies all description. But the *Meister* did not show himself and remained with us musicians, cracking feeble jokes. When, after 10 minutes, the noise in the audience showed no signs of abating, I shouted 'Quiet! Quiet!', at the top of my voice."

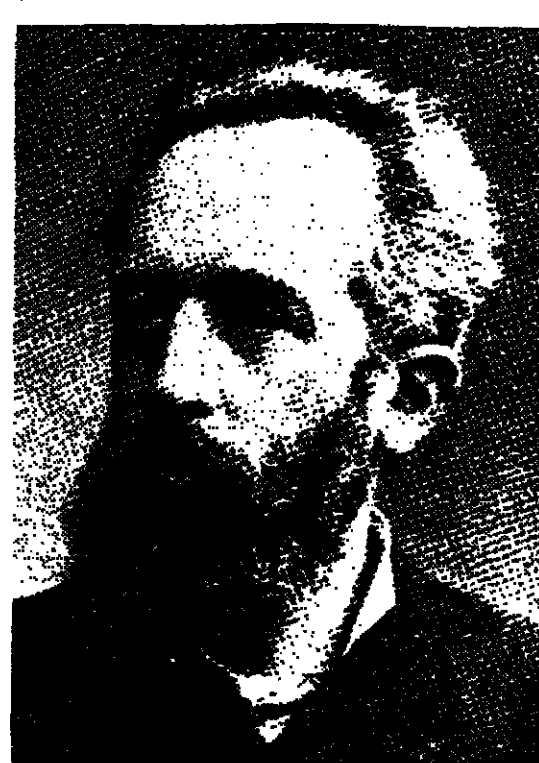
"This was heard above, they really calmed down, and then the *Meister* began to speak from the conductor's desk, first to me and to the orchestra, then — with the curtain raised — to the whole cast and the technical staff who were assembled on stage. The *Meister* spoke with such warmth that

everybody was reduced to tears — it was an unforgettable moment!"

In the November of that year Levi stays with the Wagner family in Venice and he reports to his father:

13.11.1882  
"It was wonderful in Venice. I went daily to him in the Palazzo Vendramin, arriving at 11 in the morning and leaving at 11 at night, had all meals with them, joined in the gondola outings, and every day we visited a different church. In short, I was intoxicated with sheer joy."

"Therefore I refuse even to consider whether I deserve an order or any other kind of recognition for *Parsifal*. As for my 'prestige', I have plenty of that and



I feel, as I have already mentioned, that I am far too well off as it is."

"Moreover, I have no idea what award they could give me. The Order of Merit is the appropriate award of the Bavarian crown, but that might be rather awkward, considering my name is Levi."

Wagner dies in Venice on February 13 1883, and two days later Hermann Levi sends his father a heavy-hearted letter:

15.2.1883  
"In my dreadful, indescribable grief you are in my loving thoughts. Future generations will realise what he was to the world and what the world has lost in him."

"It was my good fortune to see him 24 hours before his death... he was in a most cheerful

mood, as we strolled in the procession of masked revellers on the piazza as late as midnight. He led the way with his daughter Isolde, striding with the liveliness of a young man... it was a glorious night, and at 1 o'clock we drove home."

The following day the *Meister* complained that he was not feeling well and did not appear at the dinner table, but the day after... he was quite well again...

"On Monday midday I left Venice, the *Meister* accompanied me to the stairs, kissed me several times — I was much moved — and 24 hours later!"

The 1883 Bayreuth Festival takes place without its founder, but his *Parsifal* is in good hands. The Giessen rabbi rejoices in his son's enthusiasm when he reads:

7.8.1883  
"I do not think I have ever known such happiness. When I look back at this glorious period in my life, I find that from the first hour of the first rehearsal to the dying away of the last note of the final performance my mood has been one of solemn elation."

"Everything worked out well; I cannot remember even the slightest annoyance; the outward success was in keeping with my own deep satisfaction; my enchantment with this most glorious, most sublime of all works intensified from performance to performance, and so did my pride in being summoned to be its interpreter."

Six years later, at the end of another festival season, Levi's confession to his father echoes the feelings of countless Bayreuth visitors, from that century to ours:

16.8.1889  
"The *Festspiel*, alas, are over! It will not be easy to find my way back into the world."

© Rudolph Sabor 1987

Extracted from *The Real Wagner* by Rudolph Sabor, published on April 23 by Andre Deutsch (£17.95).

## Trite, but so tight

## DANCE

Athens-London-Madrid  
Perdikis/Lyras  
The Place

Two Greek choreographers who showed their work jointly at the Place this week seem to have nothing in common but their nationality — and neither of them was actually born in her homeland.

Denise Perdikis comes from Madrid and works there with a company called Madrid DC, which was formed four years ago for Fina Tomas.

Eight young women perform in *No Place*. Their task is to stamp rhythmically (but much slower than in Spanish dancing) to confront, embrace and wrestle with one another, pushing the other down or lifting her up.

Dressed in a miscellany of black and white garments, they do this for slightly more than 30 minutes, with faces in some cases earnestly expressive, in others impassive, but all of them most intent.

Angela Lyras was born in London but works in Athens and has just formed her own company there. They gave two short group works and a sequence of five song settings, mostly as solos.

Her choice of music ranges from Schumann via Stravinsky to modern pop, and her approach to dancing is equally diverse, although with a tendency towards a simple balletic technical basis.

When she tries to be serious, the effect is not very convincing, the visual images being too trite to convey much.

But Erik Satie's song "Tendrement" led her to a jolly little number for four women, amusingly frankish.

The only problem was that it left me wondering how seriously one could or should take some of the other items in that sequence of short numbers.

The dancing all evening was presentable enough, so far as the material allowed one to judge, but I fear that the pen of an E.F. Benson is probably needed to describe with full justice the artistic sensibilities revealed by the choreography.

John Percival

## Reger's crazy energy

## CONCERTS

BBC SO/Davies  
Festival Hall/  
Radio 3

Max Reger is easily — too easily — characterized as a lumpy but barren sideshoot on the evolutionary branch from Brahms to Schoenberg. Wednesday night's concert more provocatively placed him as a 20th century master in his own right, standing alongside Schoenberg and Ravel, all three represented by works of high anxiety in the face of 19th century Viennese music.

Reger's piece was the biggest. His *Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Johann Adam Hiller* is a 35-minute symphonic treatment of a little *Singspiel* tune which, in its perkiness, often appears to deflate as much as to generate the music.

There is a precedent for this combination of opulence and buffoonery in Tchaikovsky's *Enlightenment*, and the fourth of Reger's 11 variations implicitly pays homage to Strauss. But with him the coexistence of the two moods is more permanent and more subversive. There are a few sections that escape into full seriousness — the richly-textured final variation, for instance, suggests the Schoenberg of *Pelleas*, and the wistful, melancholic fifth variation is one of many unconsciously Elgarian moments in Reger — but more often jollity drifts into nostalgia, or exuberance is muddled by complication, or, in the 10th variation, a

piece of Tchaikowskian self-dramatization is ruthlessly undercut by innocence.

Then the final fugue holds symphonism and simplicity together as two ill-matched horses, and drives with crazy energy towards a massive close which seems at once a rhetorical necessity and an imposition, an affirmation, and a protest.

Dennis Russell Davies caught at once the grandeur of the work and the discordant voices within it, and though Reger's use of orchestral groups as organ stops showed up some weaknesses in the BBC Symphony Orchestra, this was an impressive performance, as were those that



Alfred Brendel: fluent wanderer through Schoenberg's nightmare

followed of Schoenberg's *Piano Concerto* and Ravel's *La Valse*.

One has become used to Boulez's clear, limpid, and optimistic account of the Schoenberg concerto: Davies found it a lot more disturbed and full of expressionist echoes, a denser and more urgent composition.

Alfred Brendel was not averse to pointing up sinister and deliberately awkward motifs, but it was much more his role to play the fluent, confident wanderer through a dark and sometimes nightmarish landscape.

Paul Griffiths

Rachmaninov's sails. With Paavo Berglund in his most flinty, quick-witted form, the responses of the Royal Philharmonic were brisk and immediate. The strings' second-movement song was restrained, enabling Gutierrez's fluid phrasing and dissolving cadences to ring through with minimum effort, and later freeing him to use the piano as trampoline in some marvellously springing fingerwork in the finale.

Berglund chose Beethoven's Fourth Symphony to conclude. It was a happy choice. Berglund has the knack of generating just the type of tense, inner energy on which this symphony thrives. Like Beethoven, Berglund concentrated on the power of the tremolando, the tied note and the sudden enharmonic change. The Royal Philharmonic, in buoyant form, appeared to love every minute of it.

Hilary Finch

## Love, ancient and modern

## THEATRE

Hyde Park  
Swan, Stratford

Before the English theatre went dark in 1642 there lay a 17-year stretch of drama supposedly so desolate as to frighten off even the boldest barrel-scrappers.

True to its antiquarian vows, however, the Swan has now set foot in this abandoned territory with a piece by James Shirley, a two-play-a-year all-rounder who seems to have ranked as the Ayckbourn of the Caroline stage.

After seeing Barry Kyle's fizzing production, I still would not care to pronounce on the merits of *Hyde Park*. But the big mistake is to view it in the belittling perspective of Restoration comedy. Shirley was engaged in a different game. His play follows three love chases involving the return of a long-lost husband, a trial of virtue, and the pursuit of a free-spirited bachelor girl.

There are intrigues, particularly when the action moves into the park where erotic sports mingle with horse racing and sprinting matches. But instead of the sealed world and neat scenic patterns of eighteenth century comedy, the narrative develops in free-wheeling improvisation.

In addition, whatever its echoes of Ben Jonson, there is



Intriguing: Alex Jennings (Fairfield) and Fiona Shaw (Carol)

no moralizing. It would have been nice if *Hyde Park* had turned out to be a Caroline equivalent of *Bartholomew Fair*, but it is even better that Shirley put his energy into dramatizing the manners of town and court without handing out judgements. If there is one thing that proclaims him a good playwright it is that he concerns himself with what his characters do, not with what they are.

As for the production, any director is in the commanding position of starting clean, unhampered by performance tradition. Anything is permissible if it brings the piece to life.

Kyle, as with his Japanese *Two Noble Kinsmen*, has reinvented the play elsewhere. We are in a 1920s Bloomsbury, with boys in white flannels and boaters, and girls in Empire-line silk; where Carol (Fiona Shaw) wraps up her feminist view on a Fabian Society typewriter, and a boy in a Fair Isle sweater challenges his rival with a rapier.

Shirley's street becomes an artist's studio where the unkempt Frank (James Fleet), receives his playboy cronies and shows off his latest John-

like portraits of their mistresses before entrusting his own girlfriend to the carnivorous Lord Bonville to make test of her constancy.

*Hyde Park* is written in Shakespearean meter, but you would never guess it from the company's realist speech which extracts an amazing crop of modern inflections from the verse.

There is also a detailed precision of character invisible in the text. There is Carol's trouble-making lover Fairfield, played by Alex Jennings as a personable boy giving off waves of gloom with every claim to feeling like a bit of fun. He is exquisitely tormented by Shaw's Carol as a marvellous reincarnation of Shakespeare's Beatrice.

John Carlisle masks his purposes behind a benevolent smile and stately gait, which wears very thin when Julietta (Felicity Dean) goes wild with a pitchfork in the park, and finally recoils from his attempted rape with the line, "What a wretched thing should I appear now if I were anything but a lord!"

There, if anywhere, the heart of the piece comes to the surface: well-hidden though it is elsewhere under the race meetings, brilliant slow-motion crowd pantomime, box camera wedding groups, and the sight of invincibly respectable girls out on a spree. Another triumph for this house.

Irving Wardle

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RPO/Berglund  
Festival Hall

According to Rachmaninov, the opening of his Third Piano Concerto simply wrote itself. But anyone, listener or performer, who thinks the long, sinuous theme can simply play itself is in for trouble. Like Beethoven's Fourth Concerto, the first bars bear the character of the entire movement — even the entire work — on their shoulders, and there can be no going back.

Horacio Gutierrez certainly knew it. He tripped away as fast as he dared. Bows barely dusted strings as his fingers slithered out of the reach of the bass strings and horns. Such bravado worked because each phrase was so nimbly shaped, and even powerful octave passages were used not to expand but to mark time and place.

It was a performance determined to take whatever surplus wind might remain out of

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# Gorbachov pleads with Soviet youth

From Christopher Walker  
Moscow

In a keynote speech designed to win the backing of Soviet youth for the Kremlin's reform programme, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov yesterday pledged more government attention for the social problems of young people and praised their involvement in the fighting in Afghanistan.

Addressing the 20th congress of the Komsomol (Young Communist League), which boasts some 40 million members, Mr Gorbachov also delivered a spirited defence of his attempts to alter society radically. "Each generation strove to attain the main goal of their lives," he told the 5,000 delegates. "Your goal is to carry out the reorganization in Soviet society."

The address, televised nationally, was made at a time when many officials acknowledged privately that Soviet youth was becoming increasingly alienated from political involvement in the Communist Party. There was also an escalation in problems, like drugs.

Many of these were directly related to the scars left by service in the Afghan war, and yesterday, for the first time, Mr Gorbachov openly acknowledged the scale of military involvement by telling the congress that "thousands of young Soviet soldiers have undergone a baptism of fire in Afghanistan."

His clear reference to "thousands" of soldiers followed years in which the euphemistic official formula has referred only to the presence of "a limited military contingent." It came less than 24 hours after Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, told Soviet television viewers in an uncensored interview that some "120,000 Soviet soldiers" were now involved in the occupation.

Many young soldiers in uniform were among the audience. "I want to say on behalf of the Central Committee of the party, and I think, on your

behalf, to all those who have gone through the school of Afghanistan—the country and the people are proud of your bravery, courage and valour," Mr Gorbachov said.

His emotional remarks came as officials here have again hinted strongly that there will be no final pull-out until the West ceases providing the Muslim rebels with weapons.

Reflecting concern about internal resistance to his reforms, Mr Gorbachov attempted to define for his young audience the precise nature of the obstacles his two-year-old programme of change now faces.

"The question is sometimes asked if there are enemies of reorganization and who they are," he declared during the 90-minute address. "I think we should clarify the matter. We do not have political opponents or opposition to reorganization."

"What does exist are difficulties of the preliminary stage of these revolutionary changes. To one degree or another, we are all involved. We are all children of our age. The mechanism of slowdown that took place did not exist by itself. Its carriers exist at the level of the (party's) Central Committee and the Government, in ministries, in the republics and the regions. They exist among the workers, and even in the Komsomol, although it is difficult for you to become infected with conservative attitudes."

Mr Gorbachov used the speech to adopt a defiant stance against his critics and to invoke the authority of the party's Central Committee for the three main planks of his reform programme.

"The opinion of the Central Committee is the following: openness, criticism and democracy are absolutely vital in order to move the whole process of reconstruction ahead decisively," he stated.

# All the Queen's minders present arms



Police officers in front of Ely Cathedral with armfuls of flowers presented to the Queen during her walkabout (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

The Queen was swamped with flowers after she carried out the traditional Maundy Thursday ceremony at Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire, yesterday.

Earlier she had handed out the Maundy money to 122 pensioners, a man and a woman for each of her 61 years.

The Royal Maundy, which dates from the twelfth century, was handed over in red and white purses to the pensioners, who each received 61p in specially minted coins.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived by train for the ceremony and were driven to the cathedral along streets lined with flag-waving people.

The Duke is patron of the £4 million Ely Cathedral Appeal Fund which, with the help of a personal donation from the Queen, has already passed the £3.5 million mark.

Thousands of people again lined the streets of Ely for the royal procession which followed the service, held for the first time at the cathedral.

Hundreds of excited schoolchildren pushed bunches of flowers into the

Queen's hands as she walked through the narrow streets, still clutching the traditional Royal Maundy money.

Among the crowd were Joe and Kitty Davis, the Pearly King and Queen of Harston, Cambridgeshire, who were remembered by the Queen and Duke from a meeting several years ago.

Mrs Davis, aged 67, said: "She knew who we were and asked how we were getting on."

Mr Davis, aged 77, said: "The Duke knew I was a professional boxer because of my nose, and we had a chuckle about good my career must have been."

The Queen was continually loaded down with colourful flowers, mainly bright daffodils.

She was frequently forced to pass the armful of blooms to her lady-in-waiting, who in turn passed them to police.

At the Queen's request, the flowers were later sent to two local hospitals. The Queen and the Duke later went to a reception with the Bishop of Ely, the Right Reverend Peter Walker, and then on to lunch at the King's School.



The Queen stoops in front of children to pick up a bunch of flowers.

# Suicide every 20 minutes in Japan

From David Watts  
Tokyo

Suicides in Japan reached their highest level since the war last year, with one person taking his or her life every 20 minutes.

But the Japanese are luckier in love comedies with 10 years ago. Suicides because of unhappy affairs have dropped 70 per cent, according to the National Police Agency.

Unemployment, the modernization and sale to the private sector of industrial concerns and difficulties caused by exporters by the strong yen have increased industrial sector suicides. At 25,524 a year, suicides are now three times higher than deaths by road accidents.

A comparative study of suicides in 1973 showed that three other countries had higher rates of suicide per 100,000 population for men aged 15-24. They were Czechoslovakia with 27.5, Hungary 24.8 and West Germany 20.9. Japan had 19.9. In the same year, however, the Japanese female suicide rate was the highest in the world at 13.1 per 100,000 population. The next highest were Sweden with 9.5 and West Germany with 7.1.

Japanese methods of committing suicide are much like those elsewhere, such as sleeping pills, gas and jumping off buildings or in front of trains.

The sale to the private sector of Japanese National Railways on April 1 was blamed for an additional 48 railway worker suicides.

Suicides by people aged over 50 have doubled since 1978. Among the young, suicides rose 44 per cent last year compared with a year earlier.

Forty per cent of suicides by people in their fifties and sixties are because of illness. Suicides in the 40-50 age bracket are mostly motivated by economic problems, while many people in their twenties and thirties appear to take their own lives because of alcoholism or mental illness.

# Russia criticizes Shultz after Moscow talks

Continued from page 1

set any deadline for the consultations inside Nato on the new offers, but remarked pointedly that the Reagan Administration had less than two years left in power.

Many of his remarks appeared designed to reinforce the propaganda advantage which Mr Gorbachov had already gained from Mr Shultz's visit. He said that despite the large size of the US delegation (which numbered more than 100), "the head of that delegation did not have much room for manoeuvre."

Mr Gorbachov was surprised that the US team had not immediately "applauded" Mr Gorbachov's offer to underpin a medium-range missile accord with a new pledge to stretch the zero option also to cover shorter-

range and very short-range missile systems.

Questioned about Soviet conditions for a third summit—which many observers think will now take place in Washington later in the year—Mr Gorbachov emphasized the link which Mr Gorbachov has made on such a meeting depending on a European missile pact being ready for signature at it.

But Western diplomats noted with interest that he did not appear to insist on the other apparent condition that such a summit would also have to be preceded by an agreement on other "key principles" of nuclear disarmament. "I would not insist on a linkage," Mr Gorbachov said. "Let us wait for a response from the US."

# Horror of Bourj al-Barajneh

Continued from page 1

had one saw, so we had to clean it and pass it along.

"Then, while we were doing that, people were rushing to the hospital because we didn't have very much gauze, or medicine, and everybody in the camp had heard about this disaster and were bringing what they could, and the camp was shelled again, so a lot of the people who were running to the hospital were wounded.

"So we received some more wounded. Two more died almost immediately, and another four, well, two needed laparotomies. I think another couple had chest tubes outside, one was another boy who died later.

"Then we heard while we were still operating that Iranian tanks had come to the camp and were on the edge of the camp, and somebody said

they were coming in. But then we heard a lot more commotion and it turned out that they had been fired on, and the Iranian driver of the cars had been shot in the head, so he came to the emergency room which, of course, by this time was, er, was like an abattoir.

"And they resuscitated him, put a drip up, got some blood, put in an artery, and they got agreement for him because he was Iranian, to be transferred out, so some people ran out with him. And they were still shelling.

"Then we were doing all these operations, and it was one of the worst days in terms of lack of food, we had no tea and no cigarettes, and I said to somebody, please you'd better go outside and see if you can bring us some tea if there is any in the camp because I

don't think we're going to be able to do this without it."

Dr Cutting and Miss Wighton vividly described other cases of mass suffering but also found room to smile.

"We would tell folk stories," the doctor said, adding that on one occasion they had seen on television, to their immense chagrin, an American report of the world's longest sandwich.

Miss Wighton recounted how she had been wounded in the arm by shrapnel. Asked the date, she threw back her head in a laugh and said: "It was November 5!"

But both women emphasized the serious concern they felt for the future welfare of the camp's inhabitants.

Asked if they had an Easter wish, Dr Cutting said: "It would be for the camp to be peaceful." Miss Wighton added: "And for our friends to be secure."

# Clamp-down on chemicals

New regulations which come into force on June 1 could herald a clamp-down on unauthorized movements of dangerous chemicals and explosives in Britain's ports.

The issue has been brought into focus because the Herald of Free Enterprise had aboard her undeclared dangerous chemicals when she capsized at Zeebrugge.

The new regulations demand that harbour authorities be given a period of notice before the arrival of dangerous loads. They have, however, been in preparation for years and are not a response to the loss of about 200 lives in the Zeebrugge disaster.

One source involved in the movement of dangerous cargo said: "The laws we have are perfectly adequate. The problem is that they are not adequately enforced. The new regulations may help."

Meanwhile, in Holland, the largest Dutch transport employers' organisation, EVO, said that many millions of guilders had been paid by truck drivers in bribes to EEC customs officials to ease the crossing of borders and cut down on bureaucracy.

Mr Piet Romijn, of EVO, said: "We get reports from almost every border in the EEC that tips have been paid to customs in order to pass the border swiftly."

The new British harbour regulations provide that a period of notice, typically 24 hours, must be given to authorities before the arrival of hazardous substances. One source said yesterday: "It means that if we have reason to suspect someone is in breach of the regulations, it will be easier to take action against him, and, if necessary, arrange to have his vehicle or containers examined." Until now the practice of

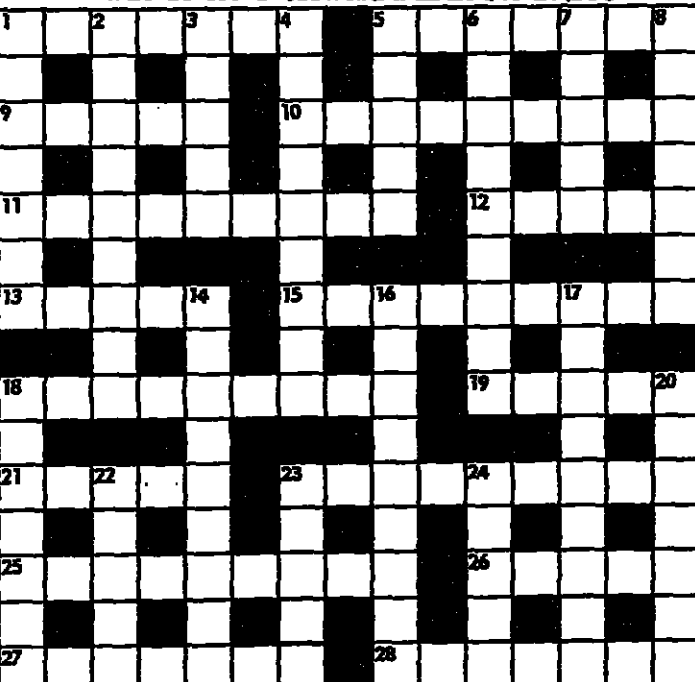
individual ports in relation to these substances has been governed by local bye-laws, and the new regulations, which were drawn up by the Health and Safety Executive, are the first standardized set of national regulations covering these substances in harbour.

They are intended to dovetail with existing regulations relating to road transport.

Primarily the regulations were designed to ensure the safe and orderly handling of dangerous materials in ports, rather than to clamp-down on breaches of the rules, but one authoritative source said yesterday that he thought their introduction would create a climate in which shippers and others which would be deterred from wrongly declaring the nature of materials.

Penalties for serious breaches of the regulations will be unlimited fines and imprisonment.

## The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,333



- ACROSS**
- Mole's downfall, this itinerant minstrel? (7).
  - Clumsy workman's antipodean mate, about fifty (7).
  - University's external entrance examination by accountants (5).
  - Salesman has edge — and supplies rocket (9).
  - Archaeopteryx, perhaps — not one to go hungry (5,4).
  - Coarse linen Finn left behind (5).
  - In a classical poet there's nothing like Humpty Dumpty (5).
  - Port? No, gin — distributed in Kentish Town (9).
  - Pit 15, possibly, used to plant explosive devices (9).
  - Shortly William Hill will take the stage (5).
  - Garment stolen in the centre of Sardinia (5).
  - West Indian takes a 24 arranged in prison (9).
  - Cabinet-maker rested among the trees (9).
  - One charge that makes us mad! (5).
  - Statesman returned to look for a negative vote (7).
  - Climbing it is most demanding without the leader (7).
- DOWN**
- Psychological remedy for village lad suffering amputation (7).
  - Cover that's erected on the German upland? (9).
  - Elegant introductions to rodents in the zoologist's yearbook (5).
  - Conservative fellow said to lead state, perhaps (9).
  - Managed to be dressed in a cloak (5).
  - Woman carrying fork threw it in a barn (9).
  - Walk up with a woolly beast (5).
  - LeRist's family being brave (7).
  - It's a waste of time raising a complaint during a ball (9).
  - Some raised land associated with a fruit tree? (9).
  - Attendant upholds right to identify publication here (5,4).
  - 'Then, in a friend, it is cold' — (7 Caesar) (7).
  - Rex, trendy fellow, seen gaping (7).
  - Frequently concerning the heartless knight (5).
  - Food licked with relish? (5).
  - Inducement to live without a woman (5).

Prize Jumbo Crossword, page 10

## WEATHER

General situation: Light southerly winds will bring warm, dry weather to most areas. After early morning mist and fog clears it should be a pleasant, warm day with a fair amount of sunshine. Southern coasts and north and north-west Scotland will continue to see cool, grey weather with patchy sea fog. There is also likely to be rain or drizzle at times in the far north. Parts of Wales, South-west England and Northern Ireland will probably see a few showers later. Outlook for Saturday and Sunday: A warm start in the east but most areas will see more cloudy weather with showers, some heavy. It will become cooler and fresher on Sunday.

ABROAD				AROUND BRITAIN			
MIDDAY	C	F	W	Sun	Rain	Max	Min
Algeria	17	63	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Amman	18	64	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Alexandria	18	64	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Antwerp	15	59	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Athens	18	64	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Bahia	20	68	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Barcelona	18	64	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Bombay	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Buenos Aires	18	64	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Calcutta	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Canton	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Cebu	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Colon	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Hankow	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Hong Kong	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Kobe	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
London	15	59	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Lyons	15	59	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Madrid	15	59	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Moscow	15	59	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Paris	15	59	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Rangoon	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Shanghai	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Singapore	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Sourabaya	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Tientsin	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63
Yokohama	25	77	Cloudy	Scarbrough	4.7	17	63

THE POUND			
Bank	Buy	Sell	Bank
Australia	2.34	2.22	Bank
Belgium	36.75	36.35	Bank
Canada	2.25	2.15	Bank
Denmark	16.45	16.25	Bank
France	16.45	16.25	Bank
Germany	2.34	2.22	Bank
Italy	2.34	2.22	Bank
Japan	2.34	2.22	Bank
Netherlands	2.34	2.22	Bank
Portugal	2.34	2.22	Bank
Spain	2.34	2.22	Bank
Sweden	2.34	2.22	Bank
Switzerland	2.34	2.22	Bank
USA	2.34	2.22	Bank
Yugoslavia	2.34	2.22	Bank

### AM

### PM

### NOON TODAY

### LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 8.30 pm to 5.30 am  
Bristol 8.30 pm to 5.40 am  
Edinburgh 8.30 pm to 5.30 am  
Manchester 8.30 pm to 5.34 am  
Penzance 8.48 pm to 5.54 am

### YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

City	C	F	W	S	
Belfast	11	52	Guernsey	14	57
Birmingham	11	52	Inverness	11	53
Blackpool	11	52	Jersey	15	59
Bristol	11	51	London	18	61
Cardiff	13	55	Wolverhampton	13	55
Edinburgh	13	55	Newcastle	13	55
Glasgow	13	55	Plymouth	13	55

### HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: highest day temp.; lowest day temp.; highest rainfall; highest sunshine; etc.



Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1540.3 (+25.2)FT-SE 100  
1949.4 (+27.2)Bargains  
31735 (34700)USM (Datastream)  
183.12 (+0.54)

## THE POUND

US dollar  
1.6300 (-0.0040)W German mark  
2.9511 (+0.0001)Trade-weighted  
72.4 (+0.3)Philips and  
GEC still  
talking

Britain's General Electric Company and Philips of The Netherlands have confirmed they are holding talks on a "form of co-operation" in medical systems, expected to lead to the formation of the second largest medical equipment manufacturing operations world-wide.

Some details remain to be settled this weekend.

The merger would combine Philips International, a GEC subsidiary in the US employing about 6,000 people, and Philips medical systems, with 11,000 employees. Both have production facilities in Britain.

Page 21

## TSB loan rush

TSB England & Wales said the £100 million it offered for fixed-rate endowment mortgages was taken up in seven working days. The 9.9 per cent rate is guaranteed for five years. Since the offer was made available on April 6, the bank has granted 2,000 mortgages at an average of £48,000. The bank is thinking about allocating a further sum at a fixed rate.

## Hotel outlook

Prospects are good for London's hotels this year, according to a report by management consultant Pannell Kerr Forster. It says American visitors, who stayed away last year, are returning, while London has also become cheap for European visitors.

## SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2310.80 (+27.85)
Tokyo	Nikkei Dow	23888.43 (+357.74)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	2721.12 (+27.50)
Amsterdam	AEX	286.0 (+4.2)
Sydney	AO	1765.2 (+0.5)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	1809.9 (+1.0)
Brussels	General	4534.96 (+28.55)
Paris	CAC	533.50 (+4.2)
Zurich	SIX	533.50 (+4.2)
London	FT 100	1949.4 (+27.2)
FT 30		1540.3 (+25.2)
Recent issues		Page 20
Closing prices		Page 23

## INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	10%
3-month interbank	9 1/4-9 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	9 1/4-9 1/2%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	7 1/4%
Federal Funds	6 1/4%
3-month Treasury bills	5.57-5.58%
30-year bonds	9 1/2-9 3/4%

## CURRENCIES

London	New York
£1/\$1.6300	£1/\$1.6300
£1/DM1.3511	£1/DM1.3511
£1/Sfr1.4369	£1/Sfr1.4369
£1/Ffr0.8248	£1/Ffr0.8248
£1/Yen232.85	£1/Yen232.85
£1/Mark143.15	£1/Mark143.15
ECU	101.1
SDR	793973

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Glaxo	1450p (+23p)
Aercon Bros.	735p (+11p)
APV Holdings	610p (+13p)
Allied Lyons	379p (+12p)
Associated News	504p (+10p)
United Newspapers	495p (+25p)
Octopus Pub.	748p (+18p)
Wiglife	175p (+22p)
Alexon Group	288p (+12p)
London Int'l.	512p (+11p)
Reckitt & Colman	952p (+25p)
Wellcome	440p (+18p)
Exal Group	432p (+35p)
Lowes Howard Spine	432p (+15p)
Lloyds Bank	480p (+27p)
GE Health	430p (+13p)
Flofax	175p (+12p)
Cable & Wireless	314.5p (+1p)
Priest Marins	330p (+20p)

## FALLS:

Cons. Gold 964p (-40p)

Prices are as at 4pm

## GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$441.00 pm \$437.75  
close \$438.00-439.50 (2885.50-270.00)

New York: Comex \$438.80-439.30

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (May) 17.85-17.86 (\$17.72)

\* Denotes latest trading price

Bus Sanitary	28	Unit Trusts	22
Stock Market	28	Commodities	22
Wall Street	28	USM Prices	22
Tempest	28	Share Prices	22
Foreign Exch	28	Appointments	24
Cement	21	Money Markets	24
City Diary	21	Traded Opts	24

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

£3.3bn PSBR  
beats forecast  
Borrowing undershoots  
Budget target by £800m

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Government borrowing in the financial year just ended was well below the Chancellor's Budget forecast, according to figures released yesterday.

The public sector borrowing requirement in the 1986-87 financial year was just £3.3 billion, £800 million below the £4.1 billion estimated in the March 17 Budget.

Borrowing was at its lowest level in money terms since 1972-73, with a PSBR of £2.4 billion. As a percentage of gross domestic product, the PSBR was between 0.75 and 1 per cent, the lowest since 1969-70, when there was a net public sector repayment.

The out-turn for the year of £3.3 billion was the same as the figure for March, after negative borrowing for the first 11 months of the financial year. The February figure was revised to a net repayment of £400 million.

In his March 1986 Budget, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, forecast a borrowing requirement for 1986-87 of £7 billion. As recently as December, officials told Mr Lawson there would not be a significant undershoot.

As a result, he told the House of Commons that he doubted whether there would be any room for tax cuts in the March 1987 Budget.

The £3.3 billion figure for the financial year — less than half the original target — was

the second successive undershoot. In 1985-86, the PSBR was £5.8 billion, although this figure was distorted by the effects of recovery from the coal strike.

The 1986-87 undershoot was mainly due to buoyant tax revenues. Corporation tax receipts have benefited from the strength of company profits, and income tax receipts from buoyant earnings.

Value-added tax and other Customs and Excise receipts have soared with the consumer spending boom.

Inland Revenue receipts rose by 7.4 per cent to £57.8 billion in 1986-87, while Customs and Excise receipts increased by 9.9 per cent to £41.09 billion.

There is also evidence that public expenditure rose more slowly than was expected at the time of the autumn statement, when the planning total for the year was revised up from £139.1 billion to £140.4 billion.

Total expenditure, not directly comparable with the planning total, rose by 5.7 per cent during the financial year. There was little evidence of any end-year surge in spending by departments.

The third important element was local authority borrowing.

The local authority borrowing requirement was just £140 million for the year, down

from £1.67 billion in 1985-86. One suggestion is that local authorities have been bypassing normal borrowing through often controversial sale and leaseback arrangements.

Thus, the Treasury may have benefited from a tactic that has come under strong criticism from Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment.

The March PSBR figure was below average City expectations, although the consensus was for an undershoot.

Mr John Sheppard, economist at Warburg Securities, said: "It is good news. To some extent it is water under the bridge, but everyone is confident that the trends established last year are likely to continue. The revenue base for the economy is very buoyant."

There was a suspicion that the Treasury had pencilled in a high number for 1986-87 to make next year's target look better," said Mr Bill Martin, an economist at Phillips & Drew. "But the 1987 PSBR may turn out to be a bit higher."

Analysts were cautious about predicting a repeat of the undershoot of the past two years. The general view was that the 1986-87 undershoot had added to the credibility of the Chancellor's £4 billion target for this year.

Goodman  
forecasts  
36% gain

By Colin Campbell

International Leisure Group, the holiday and travel company which Mr Harry Goodman, its founder and chairman, wants to make private, forecasts that pretax profits for the year ended March will rise by 36 per cent to £12 million, discounting aircraft sales.

But it gives a warning that significant capital spending on expanding the aircraft fleet will hold back profits in the short term.

In arguing the case for going private in a £150 million management buy-out — 200p cash per share — the independent directors say that ILG shares, because of the volatility of profits, have been accorded a relatively low stock market rating.

The independent directors, representing 6.2 per cent of the equity, intend to accept the offer needs a 90 per cent acceptance, and closes on May 7.



Harry Goodman: making a 200p offer to go private

Ranks wins bid  
battle for Avana

By Our City Staff

Avana's two-month battle to stay independent collapsed last night when Ranks Hovis McDougall went unconditional with its contested £280 million bid for the Welsh baking group.

The closing deadline for the bid was 1pm today. RHM secured the offer by gaining control of 55.6 per cent of Avana's shares.

The miller and baker owned 7.1 million of these, representing 20.3 per cent of Avana's shares, before it launched its bid. The remainder of its firepower came from 4.35 million acceptances, representing 12.47 per cent, and purchases of 8 million shares, or 22.96 per cent, by Morgan Grenfell, its merchant bank adviser.

In the early days of the bid

Avana's share price was buoyed by hopes that a white knight would come to its rescue.

City analysts had been predicting victory yesterday after RHM disclosed on Wednesday night that it had control of 46.35 per cent of Avana's shares and was awaiting formal settlement on a further 3.82 per cent.

Under Rule 10 of the Takeover Code those shares could not be included in the count on Wednesday without proof of ownership.

A key issue now is the position Avana's chairman, Dr John Randall, a pivotal figure in the Welsh group's success in the early 1980s. RHM's last minute success also came as a blow to County Bank.

## Tesco offer for Hillards cleared

By Lawrence Lever

Tesco's £155 million bid for Hillards, the Yorkshire supermarket chain, will not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, Mr Paul Channon, the Trade and Industry Secretary announced yesterday.

Although a number of MPs met Mr Channon last week to seek a referral, Hillards' chairman, Mr Peter Hartley, said that he was not surprised by the decision.

Hillards' shares rose 3p to 322p yesterday — 9p above the value of Tesco's 13 for 20 share offer. Tesco's shares rose

6p on the announcement but closed 2p off their peak at 382p.

An all-party team of MPs, led by Mr Wymond Williams, Labour MP for Huddersfield West, met Mr Channon to voice their concerns about the Tesco bid.

Mr Hartley said that, on the lobbying front, the main concerns centred upon general opposition to a further concentration of retail outlets in the hands of big national chains.

This would increase the power of the leading national chains, some of whom were



Restless in the boardroom: Allen Sheppard, GrandMet's new chairman, yesterday

## Leader on the prowl

By Joe Joseph

Mr Allen Sheppard says that life will continue largely unchanged when he takes over as chairman at Grand Metropolitan, the hotels, brewing and leisure group whose fortunes seem to be blossoming.

"I've already been on the GrandMet board for 12 years and have been very much involved in setting up our present strategy," he said.

But since the surprise announcement on Wednesday that Sir Stanley Grinstead will give up the top job when he turns 63 in June, the City has been trying to evaluate the implications of the succession.

Mr Sheppard, aged 54, who was elevated to chief executive and his apparent last November, made his name in the motor industry before joining Sir Maxwell Joseph's empire 11 years ago.

Talkative and restless, he tends to prowling round the

boardroom during meetings and prefers talking through issues to writing reports. He says that he, like Sir Stanley, is "constantly looking at what we are doing and trying to find better ways of doing it."

Mr Sheppard can already take much of the credit for the recent renaissance of GrandMet. The purchase in January of Heublein, the US wines and spirits company, added a healthy extra US dimension to the group's international Disillers and Vintners.

"Now we're number one in the world drinks business in terms of volume," boasts Mr Sheppard, "and we're aiming to be the biggest in profits."

But a question mark hangs over the group's Intercontinental Hotels chain, which has not been paying its way.

Mr Sheppard admits GrandMet is cleaning up its portfolio, but says that the

hotels business is worth keeping. "The aim shouldn't be to give it away but to make it more profitable," he said.

Within the next month he hopes to announce terms of a major deal with Mr John Elliott's Elders IXL, which owns the Fosters lager brand that is distributed in Britain by GrandMet.

"We want to ensure that we retain a longer-term hold on Fosters and build up our income stream by working with John to make it into the first real mega-brand that Britain has had in beer."

One of the key elements of the new structure will be the arrival of Sir John Harvey-Jones, fresh from ICI, as non-executive deputy chairman.

His wisdom and experience will be a major asset, both in guiding Mr Sheppard as he grows into the chairman's job and in using his contacts to help to internationalize GrandMet's shareholder base.

## Evered hits forecast with £10.58m

By Michael Tate

Evered, the industrial holding group which only this week confirmed it had succeeded in its £103 million bid for London and Northern, lifted profits from £7.87 million to £10.58 million in 1986.

This compares with the £10.5 million estimated when Evered launched its bid for L&N last month. The com-

pany is also paying a 3.25p final dividend, as forecast, making 5p for the year, against 3.5p.

Mr Raschid Abdullah, the chairman, is optimistic about this year. The first quarter of the year has seen a substantial increase in orders in every division. L&N offers fresh opportunities and the year-end balance sheet has been much strengthened, he says.

The increased 1986 profit was achieved on a slightly lower turnover of £97.3 million, which resulted from the rationalization of the group's product ranges and the sale of the Brookhouse Berry business.

Earnings per share improved by 37 per cent to 24.8p as margins benefited from the elimination of lower-margin sales.

Fisons  
issue  
killed  
by City

By Our City Staff

A plan by the Fisons pharmaceuticals group to raise £110 million of new funds through an overseas sale of its shares has been scrapped because of institutional opposition.

The company was in an advanced stage of placing 18 million new ordinary shares, or 5.5 per cent of its authorized capital, mainly in Europe and Japan, but has been forced to abandon the issue after large City investors objected to having their rights to the company's earnings and capital diluted through an issue which was not open to them.

It is well known that some City institutions, including the Prudential Assurance Company and the M&G investment group are against the reduction of these pre-emptive rights, but this is the first time that a company has had to withdraw its plans at such an advanced stage.

Mr John Kerridge, chairman of Fisons, said last night that he was surprised at the reaction from institutions since the company had decided to make the issue only after taking the advice of County Securities, which was leading a syndicate of international banks to place the issue.

The last minute withdrawal is bound to cause deep embarrassment to the bank.

Mr Kerridge said he was satisfied that the affair did not reflect badly on the company but suggested that the City "got its act together."

He added: "This is an important issue to do with the City and the international market, it has nothing to do with Fisons."

The issue was due to be put to an extraordinary meeting of Fisons shareholders for their approval on Tuesday but Mr Kerridge said there was no point because he did not wish to become a test case for what was a City problem.

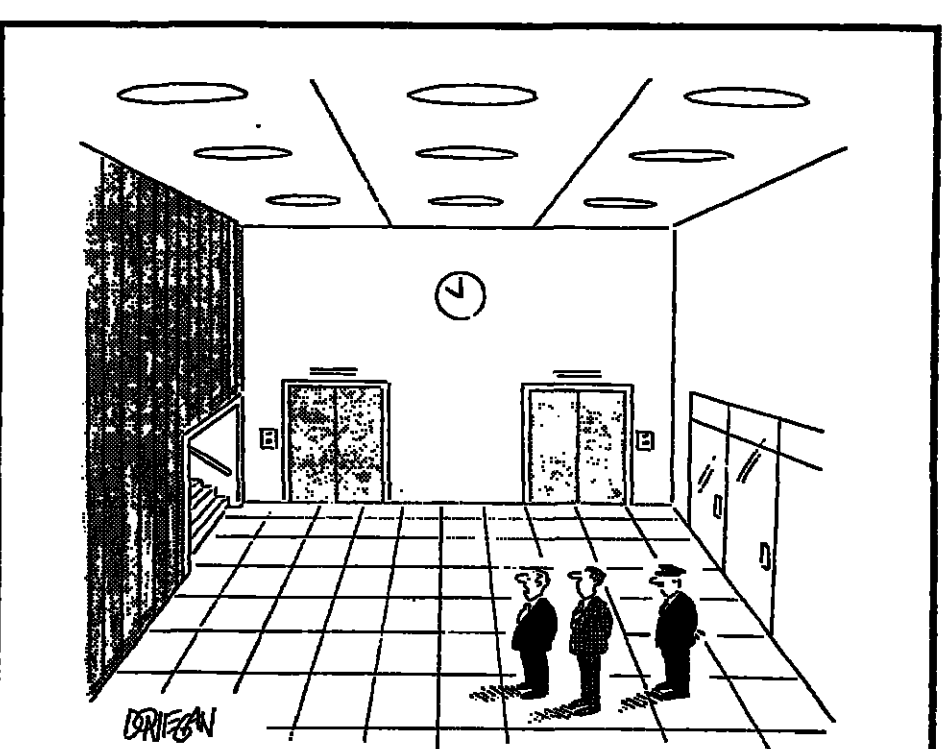
Last night, a spokesman for the Association of British Insurers said that after Fisons move, urgent meetings were likely to be held to draw up guidelines so that other companies did not find themselves in the same position.

It is expected that the institutions will meet within a few days to start discussing the issue.

The spokesman explained that one of the effects of an issue limited to overseas investors was to reduce the share price. Since Fisons announced its plans the shares had drifted from 652p to 587 on Wednesday night.

Yesterday they jumped 33p to 620p.

Comment, page 21



"Oh, well done, Purkiss! Six floors, two lifts and three boardrooms for you, me and the temp. How very sensible, Purkiss! Why, we could even fit in another if we had to! And it only took you three months of 'phoning and dashing about to find it! Very impressive, Purkiss! Ever considered very early retirement, Purkiss? Have you ever considered anything, Purkiss...?"

Poor Purkiss. He may well be very good at his job, but is he good at ours...?

So if you are looking for new premises, large, or not quite so large, then contact us at any of our offices in London, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Leeds, Manchester or Brussels.

**K King & Co**  
01-493 4933  
7 Stratford Place, London W1N 9AE



## BUSINESS SUMMARY

## Newman lossmaker bought by Hawker

Newman Industries has sold the electric motors business which it built its reputation to Hawker Siddeley for £1.5 million. The deal involves a balance sheet write-off of £7.2 million for the Newman group, since the electric motors division was a loss-making activity, but it eliminates a cash drain. As a result, says Mr Nigel McLean, the chairman, the group's financial prospects have been enhanced.

In the three years to December last year, Newman Electric Motors made pre-tax losses of £6.2 million. The write-off represents the bulk of a £9.3 million extraordinary charge in Newman's latest trading results, unveiled yesterday. Newman, which will now concentrate on making and selling fastenings and assembly systems, reported an 80 per cent rise in profits, from £3.1 million to £5.5 million, in 1986. Turnover was just 3.8 per cent higher at £88.4 million. The board is recommending a final dividend of 0.8p a share, making 1.3p for the year.

## Toye profits move ahead

Toye, the civil and military regalia manufacturer, increased profits in the year to end December from £365,000 to £400,000 on turnover up from £7,008 million to £7,457 million. The dividend for the year is 20p against 15p, and earnings a share are up from 10.22p to 11.93p. Order books are said to be buoyant.

## LME changes cash trading

The London Metal Exchange will on May 29 switch to a cash trading procedure that requires settlement in two days instead of the present system which calls for the settlement of cash business in one day. The change comes with the introduction of the International Commodities Clearing House.

## Insider trading denials

Mr Robert Freeman, head of arbitrage at Goldman Sachs, Mr Richard Wigton, vice-president at Kidder Peabody, and Mr Timothy Tabor, formerly of Kidder Peabody, yesterday pleaded not guilty at a Manhattan federal court yesterday, to charges alleging insider trading. The three were indicted last week by a grand jury on charges of conspiracy to violate securities laws, securities fraud and mail and wire fraud in connection with illegal insider trading. If convicted on all the counts, each faces total maximum penalties of 20 years in prison and fines of \$250,000 (£150,000) or twice any illegal profit, whichever is the greater.

## Broker pleads guilty in US

Mr Boyd Jeffries (right), founder of Jeffries and Co., a Los Angeles brokerage firm, has pleaded guilty to two counts of securities fraud violations. His plea, given in a Manhattan district court, pertains to charges that he included a book-keeping violation with Mr Ivan Besky, the Wall Street speculator. He has resigned as chairman of Jeffries and Co.



## Jobs boost for Ulster

Booming exports to Japan, among other markets, lie behind a \$9 million expansion announced yesterday by Ulster Carpet Mills, the largest manufacturing employer at Portadown, County Armagh. The company is to add 100 people to its 600-strong workforce at two factories.

## STOCK MARKET

## Easter forecast is a tonic for brewers

By Cliff Feltham

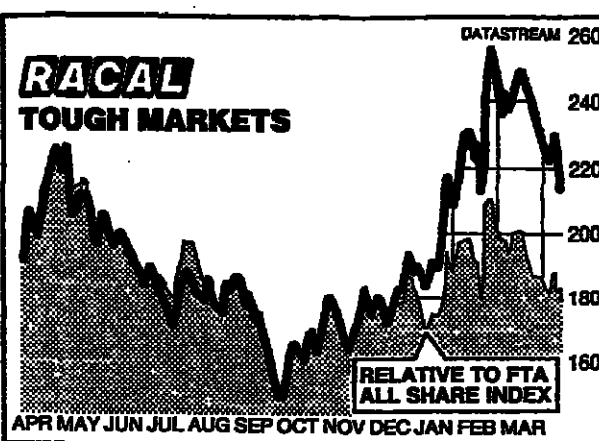
The big brewers rose sharply yesterday on forecasts of a bumper time ahead for the sector.

Mr Victor MacColl of Kleinwort Greaveson, the broker, says that the prospect of a good spell of weather over the Easter is likely to boost takings in public houses and put companies on the right profit path before the peak summer months.

With a favourable Budget and more consumer spending, if the brewers can't make it this year they never will," he said. He is putting up "buy" signs over three of the groups which all rose sharply on the recommendation. Allied Lyons went 13p better at 380p, Bass moved up to 575p for a 19p rise, while the Whitbread "A" shares jumped 8p to 316p. The rest of the sector also made significant gains.

Shares generally continued to gain ground lost earlier in the week, encouraged by an increased lead for the Government in the latest opinion poll and forecasts for a firmer dollar.

The FT 30 share index closed up 25.2 points at 1540.3. The broader FT-SE 100 share index finished 27.2 up at 1949.4.



Among leaders, Fisons sprang 33p higher to 620p following the decision to call off its international share placing. Wellcome, with results due at the end of the month, was 18p better at 442p. Priest Mariani, the property and development group, leapt 20p to 330p on the sale of its interest in Minister House, Victoria, for £1.1 million.

The tie-up between Lord Weinstock's General Electric Company and Philips, the Dutch electrical and electronics company, to create the world's largest medical electronics company provided a boost to the GE share price which gained 10p at 202p. The bullish tone fed

## ALPHA STOCKS

Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000
Allied-Lyons	4,100	English China	876	Rank Org	1,800
Amstar	2,300	Fisons	1,900	Rank Hovis	2,900
Argyll	1,300	Gen Accident	959	Redland	182
ASDA-WFI	3,000	GEC	16,000	Reckitt Colman	282
Asa Br Foods	705	Globe IT	1,300	Reed Int	481
BET	918	Globe IT	916	Reuners	619
BTR	3,500	Globe IT	1,000	RMC Group	280
BAT	1,300	Grand Met	1,700	RTZ	1,200
Bardays	3,400	GUS 'A'	320	Stemore	463
Bass	2,100	GUS 'A'	178	Royal B of Scot	485
Beaumont	1,100	GUS 'A'	285	Royal Ind	210
Beecham	1,200	Guinness	1,500	Santachi	271
BCC	2,500	Hanson	3,900	Salisbury (J)	889
BDO	2,100	Hawker Siddeley	1,400	Sears	2,800
BP Ind	638	Hilldown	2,200	Sedgwick Op	2,300
BPC	279	Imp Chem Ind	2,100	Shell	3,000
Br Aerospace	32	Imp Corn Gas	416	Sherrill	339
Br Airways	14,000	Jaguar	2,600	Sherrill & Nephew	6,400
Br Comm	1,800	Ladbrokes	886	Stant Chart	241
Br Gas	21,000	Land Securities	2,200	Storehouse	2,900
Br Petroleum	3,200	Legal & Gen	416	Sumitomo	1,200
Br Telecom	8,400	Lloyds	2,400	Tanner	888
British	3,300	London	842	TSB P/P	4,200
Bunzl	1,100	Marks & Spencer	1,500	Tesco	453
Burton	2,700	M&P	465	Thorn EMI	605
Cable & Wireless	3,300	Midland	1,800	Thorn House	1,200
Cadbury Schwepp	4,000	Mid West	1,400	Trusthouse Forte	2,300
Castle Virella	416	P & O Ltd	1,800	Unigate	1,000
Com Union	3,400	Pearson	8,700	Unilever	304
Cons Goldfields	810	Pittman Bros	610	Unilever	1,200
Cookson Grp	56	Plenary	1,500	Wellcome	2,800
Courtauld	1,100	Prudential	883	Whitbread 'A'	1,800
Dee Corp	2,800	Racal Elect	4,300	Whitworth	450
Dunlop	1,400				

Stock prices on page 23

## TEMPUS

## Foundations laid for revival in property

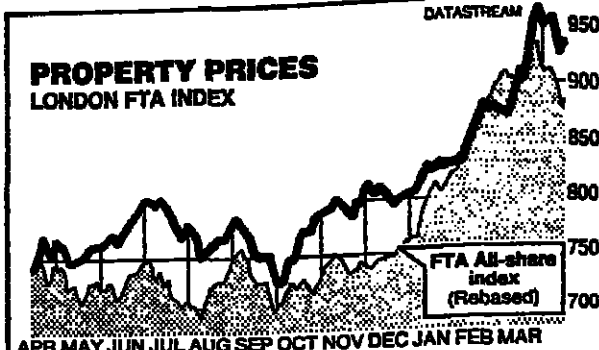
Property shares, having limped behind the market in its recent run, are about to wake up.

Analysts who admit to having been negative towards the sector are encouraged by some positive signs in the property market, notably on the rental and demand front. Backed by improving fundamentals, they suggest the investor going into the sector today should, on a year's view, have little cause for regret.

Land Securities' recently announced £200 million debenture issue is a valuable pointer to the sector's brighter prospects, especially its confirmation that asset values have been rising over the past year at a faster rate than previously.

The recent norm has been annual asset rises of about 6 per cent. However, in the year ended April, and while not necessarily representative of the group's portfolio as a whole, Land Securities saw a 13.5 per cent improvement in the value of just 20 properties.

Other property groups to boast respectable asset growth include Capital and Counties, where net worth has risen from 280p to 322p, for a 15 per cent increase;



Brixton Estate, up 14.2 per cent from 197p to 225p; and Slough Estates, up 10.9 per cent to 224p from 202p a share.

The increasing amount of money available, and the general willingness of banks to lend, has helped quicken the pace of development. For its part, Land Securities has spent £175 million on acquisitions and developments in the past year alone, a capital commitment of £340 million in hand, and clearly has fresh ideas in mind for the £200 million just raised.

Meanwhile, rents are moving up, the days of City rents of £50 a sq ft — not expected before the year-end — are already here, and activity is spreading well beyond the traditional City sites. De-

velopers report growing interest in industrial properties.

Shares that can be regarded as core holdings include Land Securities and MEPC, while others worth a thought include Greycoat, Roschagh, Mountleigh, Peel Holdings and Wates.

Last month, property shares hit an 11-year relative low, although in recent weeks there have been signs that the tide has started to turn. A runaway bull market in the sector is not expected, but at least property shares appear to be shaking off their dead duck image.

As long as inflation and interest rates do not spoil the fun, wisely selected property shares should serve the investor with patience reasonably well.

## Standard's fate hangs on oil price

Standard Oil's first-quarter results are due out next week, probably on Wednesday, if they are not delayed by BP's bid for the 45 per cent of Standard it does not own.

Analysts are expecting the company to report earnings per share of between 80 cents and 90 cents, compared with \$1.08 last year. This is a good performance in the light of lower oil prices and is the result of higher prices for Alaskan crude, which rose by \$1 a barrel in February, and a profitable downstream operation, which is comparatively insulated from the vagaries of the market because much of its product is sold via company-owned stations, resulting in higher margins.

What Standard reports this quarter, or for the year as a whole, will be irrelevant to whether shareholders should accept BP's \$70-a-share offer.

All that matters is what investors believe will happen to the oil price, and what is an appropriate discount rate. Every \$1 movement in the oil price assumption alters the value of Standard by \$4 a share. And every 1 percentage point change in the chosen discount rate is worth \$2.50 a share.

Hence the difference in the values for Standard shares reached by Goldman Sachs, adviser to BP, and First Boston, adviser to the special committee of the independent, non-executive directors of Standard Oil.

The First Boston scenario of an oil price of \$22-\$23 a barrel and an 8.5 per cent to 10 per cent discount rate gives a value of \$85 a share.

BP's \$70 offer assumes a real oil price of \$18 a barrel and a nominal discount rate of 11 per cent.

Higher oil prices look certain in the longer term. But portfolio managers are nervous for their short-term outlook, and they do not see any compelling arguments for believing that oil prices will rise above \$18 a barrel on a six-month view.

Interest rates also appear to be on an upward trend, making an 11 per cent discount rate look realistic.

There seems to be a growing body of opinion that portfolio managers, whose Standard shares have risen 40 per cent in less than three months, might find the BP offer attractive.

Rather than wait for a possible sweetener of a couple of dollars from BP, shareholders may prefer to switch from Standard into BP to keep their exposure to Alaskan exploration.

## THIRD MARKET

High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change
450	180	Abelco Group	380	410	-10
50	10	Aberdeen Am Petrol	29	32	-5
125	110	Allied Insurance	115	125	-5
60	30	Cable & Wireless	54	58	-2
68	24	Corton Beach	61	68	-2
195	121	Edinburgh Inv	190	200	+5
63	10	Egmont Oil Ireland	47	49	+6
41	1	De Vries	47	49	+1
29	17	Publishing Holdings	26	28	n/c
57	46	Theme Holdings	49	52	n/c
133	114	Unit Group	112	117	n/c

## TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 30	July 31	July 31	July 31
Call options were taken out on 16/4/87	Call options were taken out on 16/4/87	Call options were taken out on 16/4/87	Call options were taken out on 16/4/87
Options on: Amstar, Asa Br Foods, BTR, BAT, Bardays, Bass, Beaumont, Beecham, BCC, BDO, BP Ind, BPC, Br Aerospace, Br Airways, Br Comm, Br Gas, Br Petroleum, Br Telecom, British, Bunzl, Burton, Cable & Wireless, Cadbury Schwepp, Castle Virella, Com Union, Cons Goldfields, Cookson Grp, Courtauld, Dee Corp, Dunlop	Options on: Amstar, Asa Br Foods, BTR, BAT, Bardays, Bass, Beaumont, Beecham, BCC, BDO, BP Ind, BPC, Br Aerospace, Br Airways, Br Comm, Br Gas, Br Petroleum, Br Telecom, British, Bunzl, Burton, Cable & Wireless, Cadbury Schwepp, Castle Virella, Com Union, Cons Goldfields, Cookson Grp, Courtauld, Dee Corp, Dunlop	Options on: Amstar, Asa Br Foods, BTR, BAT, Bardays, Bass, Beaumont, Beecham, BCC, BDO, BP Ind, BPC, Br Aerospace, Br Airways, Br Comm, Br Gas, Br Petroleum, Br Telecom, British, Bunzl, Burton, Cable & Wireless, Cadbury Schwepp, Castle Virella, Com Union, Cons Goldfields, Cookson Grp, Courtauld, Dee Corp, Dunlop	Options on: Amstar, Asa Br Foods, BTR, BAT, Bardays, Bass, Beaumont, Beecham, BCC, BDO, BP Ind, BPC, Br Aerospace, Br Airways, Br Comm, Br Gas, Br Petroleum, Br Telecom, British, Bunzl, Burton, Cable & Wireless, Cadbury Schwepp, Castle Virella, Com Union, Cons Goldfields, Cookson Grp, Courtauld, Dee Corp, Dunlop

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
N York 1.2525-1.2535	1.2525-1.2535	0.42-0.43p	1.14-1.15p
London 2.1412-2.1422	2.1412-2.1422	0.42-0.43p	1.14-1.15p
Amstar 3.2335-3.2345	3.2335-3.2345	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p
Brussels 61.13-61.24	61.13-61.24	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p
Cyprus 11.1213-11.1244	11.1213-11.1244	2.2-2.21p	6.2-6.21p
Dubai 1.1023-1.1030	1.1023-1.1030	20-20.25p	52-52.25p
Frankfurt 2.0205-2.0215	2.0205-2.0215	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p
Libor 227.45-228.92	227.45-228.92	63-63.25p	245-245.75p
Madrid 307.05-307.27	307.05-307.27	83-83.25p	285-285.75p
Paris 210.41-210.48	210.41-210.48	81-81.25p	279-279.75p
Osaka 11.0211-11.0256	11.0211-11.0256	3.9-3.91p	10.9-10.91p
Porto 3.2113-3.2148	3.2113-3.2148	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p
Singapore 10.2512-10.2512	10.2512-10.2512	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p
Tokyo 232.74-233.58	232.74-233.58	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p
Vienna 232.75-233.51	232.75-233.51	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p
Zurich 2.4287-2.4287	2.4287-2.4287	1.1-1.11p	2.9-2.91p

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 724 (day's range 723-724).

OTHER STERLING RATES	DOLLAR SPOT RATES
Argentina austral 2.4674-2.5098	Ireland 1.4880-1.4710
Australia dollar 2.2711-2.2728	Singapore 2.1340-2.1352
Bahrain dinar 4.7612-4.7612	Sri Lanka 1.2137-1.2137
Brazil cruzeiro 36.2702-36.4850	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Cypriot pound 7.1255-7.1255	Thailand 1.3175-1.3175
Dutch guilder 2.2035-2.2035	West Germany 1.4710-1.4710
French franc 6.5596-6.5596	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
German mark 1.4710-1.4710	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Hong Kong dollar 7.7560-7.7560	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Indian rupee 46.3500-46.3500	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Italian lira 1.3600-1.3600	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Japanese yen 160.0000-160.0000	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
South African rand 4.6670-4.6670	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Singapore dollar 2.7995-2.7995	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Spanish peseta 166.6667-166.6667	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Swedish krona 4.6667-4.6667	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
Swiss franc 1.3200-1.3210	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
UAE dirham 3.6737-3.6737	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
US dollar 1.5170-1.5170	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210
UAE dirham 3.6737-3.6737	Switzerland 1.3200-1.3210

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank NYPEX and Ecol.

## RECENT ISSUES

Equities	Value	Equities	Value
Altrona (180p)	191-41	Ladbroke F/P	405
Burford (80p)	165	Nash Inds F/P	93-2
Camb Inter (130p)	191-41	Pict Pet F/P	34
Capital Radio (105p)	186-1	Widney F/P	41
Casella Comm (200p)	216		
Cundell New (125p)	148-2		
Dale Group (110p)	123		
Fifor (155p)	175-112		
Homby (100p)	111-2		
JSB Elec (115p)	168		
Lon & Metro (145p)	240-2		
MIL (144p)	194		
March 6p	124-41		
Malvern (120p)	126		
Malvern (114p)	126		
Mercury Asset	300-44		
Nobo (152p)	175		
Reckitt (180p)	168		
RCD (55p)	100		
Regina H Beauty (20p)	42		
Rendence Sec	168-3		
Sanders Sydney (100p)	240-45		
Scandinavian BK (210p)	114-42		
Sinclair G S (90p)	82-41		
TSE Group (100p)	168-11		
Veron (140p)	175-11		
Watergate (140p)	133		
Wilson Bowden (130p)	192-44		
Wyviale New (110p)	192-44		

P.S. If you are self-employed or have no company pension, please tick the box so we can also send you details of Aetna's Gilt-Edged Pension Bond.

A529

## WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) — Wall Street's inflation and interest rate fears were further soothed early yesterday, clearing the way for fresh price rises. The Dow Jones industrial average, which recovered

nearly 30 points on Wednesday, climbed another 14.49 points to 2,974.44 at one stage when the transport indicator was up 7.52 to 928.89.

Advancing shares led declining issues by four-to-one

Alcoa	45 1/2	44 1/2	Firestone	36 1/2	35
Allied Signal	44 1/2	45 1/2	Fort Chicago	25 1/2	25 1/2
Alis Chem	26	26	Fort Int Brnp	55 1/2	54 1/2
Alcoa	45 1/2	44 1/2	Fort Penn C	10 1/2	10 1/2
Amstar	20 1/2	20 1/2	FT Waco	40	40
Amstar Inc	42 1/2	42 1/2	Ford Motor	82 1/2	81 1/2
Amstar Inc	42 1/2	42 1/2	GAF Co	49 1/2	47 1/2
Amstar Inc	42 1/2	42 1/2	GTE Corp	30 1/2	30 1/2
Amstar Inc	42 1/2	42 1/2	Gen Corp	11 1/2	11 1/2
Amstar Inc	42 1/2	42 1/2	Gen Corp	11 1/2	11 1/2
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Amstar Inc					



# Lloyd's sees threat to 'names' in Budget proposals

By Joe Joseph

Lloyd's underwriters are preparing to fight a clause in the Finance Bill which they say could lead to an historic change in the way the world's largest insurance market conducts its affairs.

Some fear that if the new proposals become law, many of Lloyd's 32,000 "names" might think twice about investing in the high-risk insurance market, some underwriters could be forced to turn down certain types of business, and others might even be left dangerously underinsured to meet future claims.

Section 58 of the Finance Bill will, for the first time, give the Inland Revenue the power to challenge the way and the extent to which underwriting names set off their future liabilities.

Until now underwriting syndicates at Lloyd's have been able to square off their liabilities at the end of their traditional three-year accounting period.

Individual names have then been free to walk away from those liabilities by paying a premium to other underwriters to assume responsibility for future claims, effectively reinsuring their liabilities in an arrangement

known as reinsurance to close (RITC).

The Inland Revenue is concerned that some Lloyd's syndicates are overproviding for future liabilities, thereby claiming tax relief on a larger sum than is needed on commercial grounds and rolling forward untaxed funds.

Officials have felt for some time that Lloyd's syndicates should be treated on the same terms as general insurance companies, whose provisions for future liabilities — unlike RITCs at Lloyd's — are open to query by the Revenue.

Lloyd's underwriters have been in such a lather over this issue that they secured a legal opinion last November which is that provided the RITC policy was entered into, and the figures arrived at, using bona fide reasons, then it was a valid contract of insurance and then the Inland Revenue was unable to disallow any part of it.

Even so, section 58 of the Finance Bill gives the Inland Revenue a statutory right to query the RITC premium. It makes clear also that the premium will not be tax deductible if "the amount of the premium exceeds allowable provision for the liabilities concerned."

The Inland Revenue has agreed to talk to the authorities at Lloyd's about the details and putting into action of the new proposals — leaving the underwriters marshalling their arguments.

Members have a lot on their plate already, including the PCW affair.

Many at Lloyd's feel that gave the Inland Revenue the excuse to take a closer look at the market's accounting practices.

A group of Lloyd's agents and underwriters who gathered last week at a seminar run by Ernst and Whinney, the accountants who act for many names as well as advising Lloyd's, had little doubt that countering the Inland Revenue's plans was one of their principal challenges at present.

Mr Nigel Holland, Ernst and Whinney's senior insurance partner, clearly sees it as a decisive moment in the history of Lloyd's.

"If the Inland Revenue does not allow tax relief on the RITC premium, a name will have to pay tax on a sum larger than his profits," Mr Holland told *The Times*. "How long is he going to stomach that?"

Quinton: 'committed to wider international ownership'

## Barclays share sale in US and Japan

By Michael Tate

Barclays Bank plans to raise more than £200 million next month through a sale of shares in Japan and the US.

It involves placing 20 million shares through the Tokyo market and offering 5.38 million American depositary shares, the equivalent of 21.5 million ordinary shares, in the US.

The American underwriters will also have an option to acquire an additional 800,000 ADRs to cover any over-allotments.

The two offerings, which will be priced in the latter part of May, will represent less than 5 per cent of the Barclays authorized capital.

The move will assist Barclays in its international expansion plans and satisfy a

growing overseas demand for the shares. Hence the lack of any clawback arrangements for existing shareholders.

Mr John Quinton, the Barclays chairman, said yesterday the company had been "committed for some time to wider international ownership and trading of the shares, as evidenced by the listing of its shares in Tokyo and New York last year. We believe this offer will help us achieve that aim."

It is thought some of the money raised could be used to finance the expansion of the market-making operations of BZW Securities in the US.

At the end of 1986, Barclays had about 16 per cent of its assets in the US, and was represented in more than 30 states.

## COMMENT

# Fisons leaves the City with egg on its face

Fisons's decision to scrap a £110 million international share placing in the face of strong opposition from institutional big guns leaves the City with more than a little egg on its face. The objectives of the exercise were worthy, even admirable. Fisons does more than 80 per cent of its business overseas yet less than 2 per cent of its shares are held outside Britain. Fisons aimed to take its message to investors in Japan, Switzerland, Germany and France and hoped that from that groundwork a deeper and longer term interest would grow. The money to be raised, while useful for a small acquisition here or there, was almost incidental. Fisons is in excellent financial shape with a business that is strongly cash generative and has many alternative means of financing its corporate objectives.

But because of growing shareholder hostility, Fisons has retired hurt and confused with the feeling that if the City wishes to play its essential support role to British industry, it must get its act together in this complex area of capital issues. County Securities, Fisons's adviser, appears to have misjudged the present thinking of long term investors, and there is a real need for clearer guidelines to prevent further blunders.

As proposed, the scheme offended existing Fisons shareholders in a number of ways. Markets naturally enough respond to news of a further issue of capital. In Fisons's case the share price fell sharply after the placing was announced. It was all very well to suggest that the new shares will be offered at market price. But effectively that meant at a lower level after the market discounted the effects of the issue. Existing shareholders, who are perfectly entitled to ask whether the objectives involved in such fund raisings, with all the attendant expenses, are sufficient compensation for the damage inflicted on the capital value of their assets.

More controversially, there is the question of shareholders' pre-emptive rights. The basic principle that shareholders should have the right to protect their investment from dilution is a sound one that has stood the test of time. Under the pressure of Big Bang and the interests of bringing London into line with other financial centres, the rules were relaxed last year by the Stock Exchange. Some would describe this process as lowering London's standards in the spurious cause of progress. There is a strong need for a clear agreement here. At present a lingering suspicion exists in the minds of many institutional investors that the practices now appearing are transactions driven. Those which are more related to the needs of keeping expensive corporate finance

houses well fed and watered than the basic needs of investors or industry must be curbed.

## Missing a soft target

The new benchmark for Government borrowing announced in last month's Budget, that it should be 1 per cent of gross domestic product, was never going to be a precise target. And so it has proved. Without having established his footing on the new and very straight borrowing path, the Chancellor has already slipped off it.

Not that there are likely to be too many complaints at the Treasury about the fact that the 1986/87 PSBR, at £3.3 billion, represented just 0.85 per cent of GDP. And, if the 1 per cent benchmark is intended to be a level around which the PSBR will fluctuate according to the cycle, then it was appropriate, in the light of the buoyancy of tax revenues last year, that the first movement should be below it.

Rather more problematical is the use of the PSBR as such an important indicator of policy, the last bastion of the medium-term financial strategy. Whatever else may be said for the Treasury's forecasting record, it is pretty hopeless at predicting the PSBR.

In the March 1986 Budget the target and forecast for 1986/87 was £7 billion. As recently as March 17 it was £4 billion. And now we have £3.3 billion as the outcome which, if past experience is anything to go by, should not be greatly revised.

There is, it is true, always a problem with any number which has to be both targeted and publicly forecast. And PSBR is the difference between two very large numbers — revenue and spending. But there is hardly any excuse for the Treasury, as the Chancellor has suggested, to be sticking to its £7 billion forecast until late last year. Neither is there much excuse for official Treasury guidance which, until well into this year, dismissed out of hand suggestions of an outturn of under £4 billion.

The fact is that public borrowing is extremely difficult to forecast. Who would have expected the local authorities to borrow just £140 million net in 1986/87? And, while the signs pointing to buoyant tax revenues were there for all to see, it has not always been the case that these have been readily translated into hard Exchequer cash.

The PSBR had a logical place in the medium-term financial strategy in March 1980, as one of the counterparts to the all important sterling M3. But now, with sterling M3 abandoned, the PSBR has been retained mainly, it appears, for its good behaviour.

The gilt market, up a point yesterday morning, hardly flickered in response to the good PSBR number. Too much good news, like too many Easter eggs, causes indigestion.

## Borrie hits at 'high' SIB costs

By Colin Narbrough

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of Fair Trading, yesterday renewed his challenge to the draft rules for members of the Securities and Investments Board, arguing that they are likely to distort competition in the life assurance business.

In a further part of his formal report on the rule-book, he focused on the effect on small insurance brokers of rule changes made by the SIB to ease the cost burden for small intermediaries.

Sir Gordon said that these changes, announced with his report last month, had not yet been published. Consequently, the OFT had not received representations from intermediaries about their impact.

Sir Gordon said: "The costs imposed on small intermediaries will be substantial in relation to their income from this type of business, and may reduce the availability of advice from fully independent advisers on life assurance and others who handle one company's products."

He said the combined rules affecting sales of life insurance were likely to distort competition.



Sir Gordon: costs for small brokers will be substantial

## Europe chases scanning prize

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The biggest prize for a multinational medical electronics group planned by Britain's GEC and Philips of the Netherlands, would be winning a larger slice of the fastest technology in body scanning.

This is the nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) imaging and analysis machinery — the most expensive medical system so far invented. The core of NMR is a huge magnet and the imaging of flesh is achieved by "listening" to microwaves hitting the nucleus of molecules in the body.

A GEC-Philips marriage in the medical electronics sector would create the second-largest operation of its kind worldwide after General Electric of America. But the big unknown force can seize the prize in scanning technology and not repeat the British experience with the first body scanning system.

This was founded on the X-ray based computerized tomo-

logy (CT) scanners invented by an EMI team.

EMI's problems with selling the scanner into the US market were a big factor in EMI's decision to merge with Thorn.

In April 1980, Thorn-EMI withdrew from this medical market, selling its CT scanner interests to GE.

NMR, discovered in the Forties, was already being researched at Thorn-EMI.

The NMR element at Thorn-EMI went to Picker International, a medical equipment company in Ohio, now part of GEC, which would join up with Philips on the new venture.

Both GEC and Philips are in CT production and the NMR market. But there are about 15 companies world-wide offering NMR systems.

Because the Picker operation is only about half the size of Philips's, GEC is expected to inject £60 million or more into the partnership to secure a 50 per cent holding.

## Australians clear UK fund

By Our City Staff

Australia's corporate watchdog, the National Companies and Securities Commission, has exonerated a United Kingdom pension fund from "knowingly" participating in the ramping of an Australian stock.

The commission said the Merchant Navy Officers' Pension Fund had bought shares in investment company, APA Holdings, at a "critical time" during a takeover bid.

The bid, which was called off, was by APA and its parent, Unity Corporation, to take over Humes, the pipe

manufacturer. However, the statement said, MNOFF was "not knowingly involved in any ramping of ordinary APA shares."

Ramping is the artificial lifting of a share price and in this case the "critical time" refers to the period between the announcement in July last year of the Unity-APA scrip offer for Humes and December 1, the eve of a \$A59 million (£26.2 million) market raid by Alexander's Laing and Cruickshank, the London broker, and its Australian associate.

That raid was deemed "unacceptable" by the com-

mission which insisted on the resale of the 13.9 million shares.

The commission said the MNOFF, whose British representatives had voluntarily attended its hearing, had not acted improperly. "The evidence has removed the commission's concern about the role of the pension fund," the statement said.

It added: "The commission has also accepted that while the pension fund was asked on December 1 to participate in the purchase of the eight per cent of shares in Humes Ltd on December 2, it refused to do so."

## Hawley cleans up the streets

Michael Ashcroft, chairman of cleaning to security group Hawley, has raised more than £500,000 from fellow businessmen to form a "vigilante" network across Britain. Following a chance conversation with Metropolitan Police commissioner Sir Kenneth Newman about the success of "Crime Stopper" in the US which offers rewards for anonymous phone calls giving information leading to arrests, the idea for a British version — Community Action Trust — was born. Organised in conjunction with Scotland Yard, CAT is expected to be operational within Greater London this summer and other regions soon after. Brian Worth, the Yard's deputy assistant commissioner, who has been working with Ashcroft on the scheme, says CAT is aimed at "crimes against the person", and explains that one crime a week will be chosen and publicised in the press. Callers with information will be assured of anonymity by the use of code numbers and a tentative ceiling of £500 is being put on rewards. The rewards will be awarded by a panel of trustees which includes Ashcroft. "We will also be able to fund psychological profiling, of rapists and such like, to try to solve unsolved crimes," says Worth.

● Latest joke doing the rounds in the Square Mile: What does Ernest Saunders eat for breakfast? Shredded Wheat.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### In with the bricks

Thinking of building your dream mansion on a little plot you happen to own in the Surrey stockbroker belt? Looking for something really different? A topic for dinner party conversation? How about building your house from Royal Mint brick? As the demolition of the 1810 mint in Tower Hill continues apace, the building reclamation spec-

ialist Oakferry of Warminster has bought up more than 200,000 of the hand-made Georgian multi-coloured bricks. The bricks — sufficient, I'm told, to build 10 four-bedroom houses — are being offered for sale at £400 a thousand. The demolition of the Mint has also unearthed a 13th century abbey and the remains of numerous ancient abbeys.

### Sliced white

Could it be that food analyst John Howarth at the stockbroker Laurence Prust is something of a health food

fan? His circular on RHM's bid for Avana includes an exceptionally colourful comment of the discrepancy between the gross margins of the two companies — with Avana's significantly higher. The reason for this discrepancy is, of course, that Avana is a high margin, specialist food company, whereas RHM, writes Howarth, with just the merest hint of disapproval, "is a baker of sliced white bread, a seller of salt and a provider of the where-withal to stuff chickens and make gravy." But as Avana's advisers, perhaps RHM now leaves a bitter taste in his mouth.

● Memo to all executives with company cars: according to the latest figures from the accident research unit at Birmingham University, businessmen and women who drive more than 40,000 miles a year have a one in 30 chance of being involved in an accident and a one in 2,000 chance of being killed.



"I can even remember when RHM first bid for Avana..."

## America's cash crop

Despite falling US agricultural land prices and a succession of bankruptcies among American farmers, it seems there is no shortage of foreign investors wanting to plough their money into the ground over there. According to the US Department of Agriculture, the number of rolling American acres owned by foreigners has risen from less than 400,000 in 1985 to 12 million last year. Of the 12 million, 1.5 million are owned by Canadians, 744,000 by Germans and, surprisingly, 380,000 by the British.

● An Easter gift for the woman who has everything. Japanese designer Kiyoko Shimura is hoping to find a buyer for a black leather, diamond-studded swimsuit, being offered for sale for £1 million. Currently on display in Tokyo, the suit is decorated with no less than 104 stones, totalling 62.35 carats.

### Royal account

Bearing in mind tales about his poverty compared to other members of the Royal family, it is interesting to note that, according to the latest STC report and accounts, Prince Michael of Kent owns substantially more shares in the company than its chairman, Lord Keith. Prince Michael, a non-executive director, owns 11,400 STC shares — worth more than £30,000.

Carol Leonard

## 1986 PEARL GROUP PROFITS

RESULTS	1986	1985
■ After tax profits up 50.9%	£25.29 m	£16.76m
■ Earnings per share up 50.5%	14p	9.3p
■ Dividends per share up 19.3%	10.5p	8.8p
■ New Life premiums up 65%	£186.7m	£113.1m
■ Increases in terminal and Ordinary Branch bonuses		

These results are the first from Pearl Group PLC following the restructuring on 31st December 1986. Pearl Group PLC is now the holding company of Pearl Assurance.

The year marked a dynamic and renewed commitment on the part of the Group to be one of the leaders in the financial services sector. This was reflected in the substantial increase of 50.9% in group profits which showed continued strong growth in the life branches and an encouraging trend in short-term business.

Allowing for the fact that five Pearl Group shares were issued in exchange for each Pearl Assurance share, the total dividend for the year represents an increase of 19.3%.

### LONG-TERM BUSINESS

There was substantial growth in long-term business with new premiums running at 65% higher than 1985.

Unit-linked business continued to grow with single premium business being particularly impressive.

Terminal bonuses for both Industrial and Ordinary Branch policies have been significantly increased due to the excellent performance of Pearl's investments and the strength of its life funds.

### SHORT-TERM BUSINESS

Remedial measures have resulted in a marked improvement in short-term business.

Further corrective measures involving premium increases will continue in 1987.

### DIVIDEND

An increased dividend of 10.5p per share has been recommended by the directors. Adjusting for the 5 for 1 exchange of Pearl Assurance shares, this means that the total dividend per share has increased by 19.3%.

## PEARL GROUP PLC

Copies of the Annual Report will be available from 18th May. Write to Reg Fearn, Company Secretary, PEARL GROUP PLC, High Holborn, London WC1V 7EB.



**The prices in this section refer to Wednesday's trading**

## FINANCIAL TRUSTS

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## Law Report April 17 1987

## Judicial review apt in public law claim

**Guevara v Hounslow London Borough Council**  
Before Mr P. J. Crawford, QC  
[Judgment April 15]

Where a claim involved a substantial public law element, the proper procedure was for the claimant to proceed by way of an application for judicial review and not by way of an action by writ, albeit that private law rights were also established.

Mr P. J. Crawford, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held, dismissing as an abuse of the process of the court an action by the plaintiff, Robin Andrew Guevara, against the Hounslow London Borough Council, whereby he claimed damages for negligence and breach of statutory duty under sections 18 and 21 of the Child Care Act 1980, for their alleged failure to provide him with accommodation or adequately to supervise him for a period in July and August 1984, while he was in their care.

Miss Frances Webber for the plaintiff, Mr Frederic Reynolds, QC and Miss Marianna Hildyard for the local authority.

HIS LORDSHIP said that for the purpose of the present preliminary issue it was as-

sumed that the plaintiff would be able to establish his allegations against the local authority. It was agreed that the local authority owed the plaintiff a duty of care and, contrary to the defendant's submission, they were not entitled to immunity from the consequences of careless decisions on the ground of public policy.

Furthermore, the local authority's statutory duties under the 1980 Act gave rise to a private right of action by the plaintiff.

The local authority submitted that the plaintiff's claim lay in the field of public law and that accordingly, irrespective of its merits, the appropriate procedure was by way of an application for judicial review and that the action by writ was an abuse of the court's process.

For the plaintiff it was submitted that although his rights were created by statute, they were directed against the local authority as a public body, they were nevertheless rights in private law and enforceable by action.

It was indisputable that, subject to questions of the time limit and leave, judicial review was available as a remedy to a person seeking to challenge the legality of a decision of a local authority in relation to a child in

care: see *A v Liverpool City Council* (1982) 1 AC 323, 372.

Before 1977 limited remedies were available in proceedings for judicial review and it could scarcely have been contended that a person aggrieved by a decision which he claimed damages for loss sustained by him was abusing the process of the court by instituting an action by writ.

But since the amendment in 1977 to Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, the court had power to order that proceedings begun by way of application for judicial review should continue as if begun by writ to allow disputed issues of fact to be resolved and to allow damages to be awarded.

The relief sought by the plaintiff was therefore now available by way of an application for judicial review.

Was judicial review the only appropriate course?

The position had to be viewed in the light of the decision of the House of Lords in *O'Reilly v Mackman* ([1983] 2 AC 237).

In the present case, it was submitted for the plaintiff that the decisions of the local authority sought to be im-

posed were in the nature of executive functions as described by Lord Bridge of Harwich in *Cocks*, at pp292-294 and gave rise to rights in the field of private law only.

But it was also submitted that the conduct of the authority was so far outside the limits of their discretion as to be outside the scope of their statutory discretion and *ultra vires*.

That argument raised public law questions.

Further, it was conceded for the plaintiff that a decision to put a child into accommodation which was not appropriate for him would normally only be reviewable in public law.

Thus, there existed a substantial public law element in the plaintiff's claim.

Once that was established it followed that it would be contrary to public policy and an abuse of the process of the court to allow the plaintiff to proceed by writ: see the general rule laid down by Lord Diplock in *O'Reilly v Mackman*, at p279.

The operation of the rule was not deflected by the presence of elements of private law right intermingled with public law rights and obligations.

Solicitors: Miss Hilary Plews, Hounslow; Mr T. J. Simmons, Hounslow.

## Nursing costs not taxable as income

**Stevenson (Inspector of Taxes) v Wishart and Others**  
Before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Stocker  
[Judgment April 15]

Payments exceeding £114,250 made from the capital of a discretionary trust fund to meet the cost of nursing care for an elderly beneficiary were not to be treated as income of that beneficiary and the settlement trustees were not liable to income tax in respect of them.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a decision of Mr Justice Knox (The Times January 4, 1986; [1986] 1 All ER 408) who upheld a decision of a special commissioner in favour of the trustees of the Joseph Levy 1961 Discretionary Settlement that the payments did not fall to be assessed to the tax on them under the provisions of section 17 of the Finance Act 1973.

The Crown was refused leave to appeal. In 1977 Mrs Henwood, a beneficiary of the settlement, suffered a heart attack and in 1978 until her death in 1981 was cared for in a nursing home. The trustees resolved under a series of deeds of appointment at

different dates to meet those nursing costs out of the trust capital.

The trustees were assessed to income tax in respect of the total sum of the payments. Mr Justice Knox upheld a decision by the commissioner that the sums so appointed were received as capital and not as income with the result that the assessments be reduced to nil.

Section 17 of the Finance Act 1973 provided that where trustees exercise a discretion to make a payment to any person and that sum was the income of the person to whom it was paid, then the payment was liable to income tax assessable on the trustees.

Mr Christopher McCall for the Crown; Mr David Milne for the trustees.

LORD JUSTICE FOX said that the question was whether the sums of money appointed and paid by the trustees out of the capital of settled property were income of the beneficiary for income tax purposes.

Two issues arose, namely (1) whether the payments fell to be treated as income receipts in the hands of Mrs Henwood and (2) if they did, whether the payments were made "to" Mrs

Henwood within the meaning of section 17(1) of the Act.

Doubtless payments of capital out of a trust might constitute income in the hands of the recipient. Thus in *Brodie's Trustees v Inland Revenue Commissioners* ([1933] 17 TC 432) and in *Cunard's Trustees v Inland Revenue Commissioners* ([1946] 1 All ER 159), payments out of capital were made in augmentation of income interest and their nature as income was determined accordingly.

But the fact that such payments were made in augmentation of income or for personal maintenance did not necessarily mean that they were income in the recipient's hands. For example, where property was held on trust for a beneficiary absolutely on attaining the age of 30 and the trustees advanced under section 32 of the Trustee Act 1925 regular annual payments of the capital to the beneficiary because they did not wish to have too much too quickly, it would seem that the payments were capital and not income.

Further, if such advances were for the purposes of his education or for his maintenance, they would retain the nature of capital. Such a beneficiary would simply be getting

capital that was contingently his in advance of the vesting date.

In the instant case the Crown argued that taking account of the size, recurrence and purpose of the payments they took the character of income. But it was necessary to bear in mind that the trust was disposing of capital under a power to appoint capital.

In reality the position was that Mrs Henwood was receiving an exceedingly expensive nursing care. That was not an ordinary income expense. It involved day-to-day maintenance expenditure of a substantial nature. It was emergency expenditure of substantial amounts quite outside normal income resources.

The trustees in exercising their power over capital did not create a new income interest. They did not create an income interest. Their power was to appoint capital. What they appointed remained capital. It followed that income tax did not therefore arise.

Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Stocker agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Timmins, Sainer & Webb.

## Consent of landowner made gypsy's occupation lawful

**Regina v Beaconsfield Justices and Another, Ex parte Stubblings**  
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Woolf and Lord Justice Russell  
[Judgment March 11]

Land which the owner had used for grazing and upon which, with the owner's permission, a gypsy had entered to erect fences and to lay down concrete preparatory to stationing a caravan, was "occupied land" within the meaning of section 10(1) of the Caravan Sites Act 1968.

The gypsy therefore did not commit an offence under section 10(1)(b) when he stationed his caravan on that land and was accordingly not liable to be evicted by the local authority pursuant to section 11 of the Act.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by the applicant.

David Alan Stubblings, from Mr Justice Kennedy (The Times May 7, 1986) who refused judicial review by way of certiorari to quash the removal order made under section 11 of the 1968 Act by the Beaconsfield Justices on September 16, 1985, acting on a complaint by the South Buckinghamshire District Council.

Mr Keith Hornby for the applicant; Mr Mark Lowe for the local authority; the justices did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that although section 10 created a criminal offence, proceedings under section 11 did not amount to a criminal cause or matter so the court had jurisdiction to consider them by way of judicial review; however, in future it would be highly desirable for such cases to be dealt with by way of case stated.

On the uncontradicted evi-

dence before the justices, the land had been used for grazing until with the consent of the owner, who was selling the land to the applicant, the applicant entered into a caravan removal order made under section 11 of the 1968 Act by the Beaconsfield Justices on September 16, 1985, acting on a complaint by the South Buckinghamshire District Council.

Mr Keith Hornby for the applicant; Mr Mark Lowe for the local authority; the justices did not appear and were not represented.

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On the uncontradicted evi-

## Collision of vessels

**The State of Himachal Pradesh**

Where a collision between two ships had become inevitable, the captain of the ship who was in the wrong in order to try to minimise the damage rather than putting the engines astern was not to be held to have been negligent, even though the damage would have thereby been reduced.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Lloyd and Sir George Waller, sitting with two nautical assessors) so stated in a reserved judgment on April 15, dismissing an appeal by the owners of the *State of Himachal Pradesh* and allowing a cross-appeal by the owners of the *Capitonia* from a judgment of Mr Justice Sheen and assessor who had found the *State of Himachal Pradesh* 85 per cent and the *Capitonia* 15 per cent to blame for a collision between them. The Court of Appeal held the former solely to blame.

Solicitors: Lance Kent & Co, Chesham; Mr A. P. Levings, Slough.

## A sporting maestro revisited: Fangio, five-times Formula One world champion



Juan Manuel Fangio: a racing hero happily bowling along, unbowed by the passing years

## Lapping up the memories of a legend who knew no fear

He was one of the sporting legends of my youth. Indeed of all time. Bowling along quiet country lanes in my first motorcar, an open two-seater which at £40 cost two and a half weeks' salary of a trainee on these pages, I could fantasise, as the wind tugged my collar at a maximum 38mph, that I was Juan Manuel Fangio.

Yesterday there was the privilege of being able to talk with him a sprightly 75, the eyes strong in a lined but firm face, the gesturing hands as powerful as a highwire acrobat, the short legs slightly bowed as though these thousands of gruelling hours of riding had been as a South American *gaucho* in the saddle.

## Driving fast in mud taught him control

It is said there was never anyone like him, before or since. Our own Stirling Moss worshipped him as he strove, mostly in vain, to beat him. In 200 races, Fangio won 78. In days when there were only eight or nine Formula One Grand Prix's a year, he won 24 and 11 second places in 51 starts, and was champion five times: 1951, and 1954 to 1957.

Early in his career, he had raced on dirt roads in Argentina. Frequently it rained. "That taught me about control, gave me the sensitivity to understand a car," he says. The astute eyes twinkle for the first time. "Driving fast on mud,

you have to feel the wheels through your backside."

He never thought about fear, he says, though he had two crashes and witnessed a horrific third.

In 1948 in Peru, Daniel Urrutia, his co-driver in a sports car event, was killed, and for a while Fangio wondered if his own career was finished. Four years later, driving a BRM in a TT in Ireland, he missed a post-race lift to Milan in a private plane with Prince Bira, who had dropped out of the race with engine failure.

Due to compete two days later in the Monza Grand Prix, Fangio caught flights to London and Paris, and with no connection to Milan, drove non-stop 1,000 kilometres to Monza, arriving half an hour before the start: without practice and at the back of the grid.

After only three laps, having passed half a dozen of the 22 in front of him, his Alfa hit a kerb, somersaulted many times, and he awoke in hospital with fractured vertebrae and skull.

In 1955 he and Moss were partners in a Mercedes at Le Mans. Fangio was driving when just ahead of him there was the accident in front of the grandstand in which 85 spectators were killed as a car leapt into the crowd. Keeping his nerve, Fangio managed to avoid the wreckage; Mercedes retired from the race, with Mike Hawthorn, instructed to continue, the winner.

"Moss was the most complete driver I have ever known," Fangio says. "He could climb into almost any car at any event and go at great speed in races which I was never able to win. With Ascari, he was my greatest rival."

The cleanest driver he ever saw was Jim Clark. "He was so neat he seemed to be going slowly, yet usually he was the fastest."

Fangio won his championships in four different marques: Alfa (1951), Mercedes (1954 and 1955), Ferrari/Lancia (1956) and Maserati (1957). "If you can say any of them was easier, it was in the Mercedes, because they were faster and

## Sponsors are needed because of expense

very powerful." He thinks it was marvellous driving in national colours rather than smothered in advertisements, as today: a matter of pride — "But the sport needs the sponsors now because of expense."

The changing world of motor racing over 80 years is captured in an historic photographic publication, *With Flying Colours* (Stanley Paul, £25) including much material from the archives of Pirelli, on whose tyres Fangio won three championships.

David Miller

## MOTOR SPORT

## Plenty of action in store

By a Correspondent

Although it is no longer quite as hectic as it used to be, the Easter Bank Holiday weekend remains a treat for motorsport enthusiasts.

Looking abroad, the world touring car championship's second round is taking place at Jarama, in Spain, against what everyone hopes will be a far healthier backdrop than the opening round at Monza, where nine BMW M3s were disqualified after the event.

At the recent opening round of the European Championship, at Donington Park, the cars had been modified to alleviate the risk of further trouble, and ironically it was the one M3 declared legal at Monza that ran into pre-race scrutineering trouble in England.

In Spain the German cars will again face a strong challenge from the Ford Sierra Cosworths of Britain's Andy Rouse — in the car that took pole position at Monza — and the Eggenberger team. As an indication of the contradictory state of the series, the latter were excluded from the Monza meeting for ostensibly running the long type of fuel injection and engine management system, yet they have been allowed to compete at Jarama with minimal changes.

In Britain, the fourth Lucas British F3 round at Thruxton is the main event. Although Reynard was less suited to Silverstone last week, where the Ralts of Gary Brabham and Bertrand Gachot were dominant, the young Brit John Herbert underlined the value of his Spitz Volkswagen engine's bottom-end punch by turning in the fastest lap in practice at Thruxton on Tuesday.

The Swiss driver Philippe Favre was also very fast in his Alfa Romeo-powered Reynard, while Britons Damon Hill (Ralt) and Perry McCarthy (Reynard) both pipped Gachot.

There are 19 championship races, and the indications are that after his storming start to the year, Herbert now faces real opposition, with Gachot and Brabham presently emerging as the men most likely to frustrate his title aspirations.

Also in Britain, Oulton Park, in Cheshire, and Thruxton host rounds of the Dunlop British Touring Car Championship, today and on Easter Monday respectively, and the Thunder-sports series, for powerful sports cars, opens in Cheshire today before moving to its spiritual home at Brands Hatch on Monday.

**Puckering on offer**

Neil Puckering, Hull's Great Britain under-21 international, Rugby League prop forward, has been transfer listed at £43,000, at his own request.

## MOTOR CYCLING

## Americans are the firm favourites

By Michael Scott

A strong team of American motorcycle racers are tipped to win the Shell Oils Trans-Atlantic Challenge, which begins today, with a depleted British squad short on big names and big horsepower.

But in spite of notable absences, the Match Races show signs of health, and should provide some exciting team racing, notwithstanding the £100,000 (or the equivalent in gold ingots) available to the individual rider who wins all nine races. The re-introduction of a round at Brands Hatch, after three years exclusively at Donington Park, is particularly welcome.

Earlier in its 17-year history, the prestige series attracted the best riders from Britain and America, and even launched such stars as triple world champions Kenny Roberts and Freddie Spencer. But it has had to get used to the absence of top GP riders, after Spencer fell three years ago, and subsequently forfeited his chance of another world championship.

This leaves the Americans bereft of world champion Eddie Lawson, Randy Mamola, Mike Baldwin and Spencer; and the British without Rob McEneaney, Niall MacKenzie, Roger Burnett and Kenny Irons. The first round of the world Formula One championship in Italy has also ruled out Roger Marshall, Paul Iddon and Joey Dunlop. However, GP regular Ron Haslam has obtained dispensation from his French Elf sponsors to lead the home team.

The visitors have the best of the domestic Superbike contestants to choose from, among them Kevin Schwantz (Suzuki), Daytona winner Wayne Rainey and former dirt-track champion and new road-racing sensation Bubba Shober (Hondas), all possible race winners on factory-backed bikes capable of more than 170mph.

The rest of the team have battle-proven privately owned head and exhaust system to give me a little more acceleration," said Thorpe. "My main disadvantage is my weight. I am 13 stone but the 250cc top lads are all 10½-stone lightweighters. But I may spring a surprise or two on Monday," he added.

On Sunday Thorpe races at Lyng, near Norwich, in the third round of the British 500cc series where he has already scored maximum points in the previous two rounds.

Rochdale Hornets have signed Neil Cowie, aged 19, the Todmorden second row forward, who has scored one try playing as an amateur for the second division Rugby League club this season.

## ICE HOCKEY

## Governing body must be positive

By Norman de Mesquita

Not for the first time, the British Ice Hockey Association is under fire for its lack of action and leadership.

The latest example concerns the non-playing of the premier division match between Solihull Barons and Durham Wasps, which was postponed because the Wasps had four players on international duty.

What was required, when Durham turned down several Solihull offers of alternative dates, was the Association to tell Durham to play the match or lose the points, with Solihull being awarded the points. That could have affected both the premier division relegation issue and the finishing positions of the six teams involved in the Heineken Championship play-offs.

In the event, no points were awarded and the match declared void, a decision which has incensed other clubs as well as many supporters.

Nottingham Panthers, for instance, found themselves in a much more difficult play-off group as a result of this decision, and will undoubtedly fail to reach Wembley, if Durham had been instructed to play the match or lose the points, they would surely have made the effort to play it.

There is a fear that, without more positive administration, the sport could founder.

## ORIENTEERING

## Another blow for Hague

Yvette Hague, of Edinburgh University, is out of the Paper Sacks Jan Kjellstrom Trophy meeting at Scarborough this weekend. British Orienteering's girl prodigy, who had two World Championships behind her by the age of 17, will, at best, jog the way round the course tomorrow and Sunday.

Last weekend a rotten winter for the 19-year-old geophysics student concluded when she went down with an arthritic virus which kept her prone for three days. The attack is just one more setback for Miss Hague. In November she broke her ankle while training and in January she was struck down by influenza.

"Bilbo" Bagness, of Airedale, will be at Scarborough to prove he is still Britain's number one. Ready to argue the point with some determination, however, are his clubmate Robert Bloor, Tim Tett, of South Shropshire, and Jonathan Musgrave, of Grampian.

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## GOLF

## McNulty takes lead as rivals are water-bound

From Mel Webb, Cannes

The 14th hole at Cannes-Mougins Country Club is not on the face of it, particularly daunting. A par-five 540 yards long it does, however, possess a deceptive cunning which brought about the downfall of many in the first round of the Suez Open here yesterday.

Its secret is that, given a good drive, it encourages the ambitious to go for the green in two. The slightest error of judgement will almost certainly mean that the ball will disappear into a brook which meanders quietly round the right half of the green.

For example, Sam Torrance and Ian Woosnam, playing together, were progressing quite nicely towards two of the very few sub-par rounds of the day when they yielded to temptation and paid for it by meeting their doom in a watery grave.

Woosnam was one under par when he plunked his second shot cleanly into the stream. Playing four under penalty, he made the green.

## Kershaws succeed at first attempt

By John Hennessy

Harry and Michael Kershaw, of Bolton and the home club respectively, won the Father and Son Golf Tournament at the first attempt at West Hill yesterday. They beat Graham and Tim Clark, of Burhill, by four and three in the final on a day when the weather was regarded as high summer. The Clarks were conceding one shot.

Kershaw senior, a Bolton Crown Court judge when he is not on a golf course, had been in bad with influenza for most of last week, and seemed hardly in his sixtieth year. To be up to seven rounds in four days. But he bore up splendidly, at the side of his stylish son, and rarely gave the Clarks the opening they might have expected.

The Kershaws, playing quite splendidly, went to the turn in 36, only two shots over par, when their combined handicap of 14 (Michael five and Harry nine) foreshadowed a score of two or three more. The Clarks, by no means disgracing themselves, were out in 37 to be two down, since they lost the sixth to the shot they conceded.

A rather tired second into the heather at the first hole seemed to suggest that the senior Kershaw might be tiring. If so he revived himself on the next green with a one-handed birdie putt from 20 feet.

The Clarks provided a further tonic with a third putt at the third, whereupon the Kershaws hit two superb woods almost on to the green at the long fifth (532 yards for another birdie). The

RESULTS: Semi-finals: H A and M G A Kershaw (Bolton/West Hill) to D P A and J A Clark (Burhill) at 180; G R and T G Clark (Burhill) to P J and J W S Rumble (Major Park) at 2 and 1. Final: Kershaws beat Clarks, 4 and 3.

including the Million Dollar challenge in Sun City last December. One stroke behind is Severiano Ballesteros, who shares second place with Gordon Brand Jr.

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Torrance, who carded an eagle three on the 501-yard eighth and two birdies on his way to an outward half of 34, claimed afterwards that he should have been given a free drop before playing his second shot. Torrance finished with a level-par 72, one better than Woosnam.

The first round lead was held on 68, four under par, by the in-form South African Mark McNulty, who has won nine of the last 13 tournaments in which he has competed,

## Henry sets record in Lyle style

By Patricia Davies

From some angles Wayne Henry looks like Sandy Lyle. He is big enough, broad enough and fair enough and he can hit the golf ball a long way.

In winning the Peter McEvoy Trophy by 11 shots at Copt Heath, Solihull yesterday Henry might as well have been Lyle as far as his fellow competitors were concerned.

His 72-hole total of 283 was one under par and 14 shots better than the previous record for the tournament. It was also a massive 10 shots lower than Henry's winning total here three years ago. Mind you, he was only 14, then, 18 inches shorter and three and a half stone lighter.

Second was Jim Payne, the Midland Boys' champion from Sandilands, who finished with two rounds of 73 for a total of 294. Andrew Raitt of Burhill, had the best round of the tournament, a four under 67, to haul himself into third place, one shot behind Payne.

Having led by three strokes after the first two rounds on Wednesday, Henry escaped potential challengers with a third round of 70, one under par, and led by seven strokes.

The first few holes at Copt Heath, a pleasant parkland course, are generally regarded as difficult but Henry was three under par after six holes in the morning and had increased his lead over Jonathan Hardy, second overnight, by seven shots. Henry dropped shots at the 14th, 15th and 16th but Vardy put himself out of contention with a round of 80.

In the afternoon Henry dropped a shot at the first but then birdied the 14th and hit two massive blows to the 540-yard 15th for another birdie to re-establish control of his game.

He finished with a flourish, hitting a sand iron to three feet at the last and sinking the putt for his fourth birdie and a round of 69, two under par.

LEADING SCORES: 283: W Henry (Porters Park), 71, 73, 70, 69, 283: J Payne (Sandilands), 70, 72, 73, 70, 283: J Raitt (Burhill), 71, 73, 72, 67, 283: K G Jones (Porters Park), 72, 73, 71, 70, 283: J Vardy (Burhill), 72, 73, 71, 70, 283: H E Robin (Warren), 71, 73, 72, 70, 283: J A Vardy (Burhill), 72, 73, 71, 70, 283: B Barry (Dulwich and Sydenham), 74, 73, 74, 71, 283: M T Huggins (Marnham Heath), 74, 73, 72, 71, 283: B B Macdonald (Overton), 80, 73, 80, 80, 283: M J Thompson (Kington Heath), 74, 73, 72, 71, 283: V C Cox (West Essex), 77, 74, 73, 72, 283: J Watson (Wymondley), 75, 74, 73, 72.

● SEQUIL - Seven golfers, including three South Koreans and two Taiwanese, shot two-under-par 70s to share the first round lead in the South Korean Open golf championship yesterday (Reuters reports).

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## POINT-TO-POINT

## Determined contender riding in fast lane

David Naylor-Leyland, in his suave City pinstripes, wheels and deals in London's property jungle during the week.

But on Saturday the lanky 32-year-old will be chasing his dream, astride half a ton of steel, equine sinew and muscle.

Naylor-Leyland is aiming to carry off point-to-point's coveted men's championship. On top of this, he has his eyes set on *The Times* championship series which culminates in a final at Towcester on May 22.

To achieve this the resourceful London property developer has gathered together a team of ten horses with more than just a little help from his friends. He owns two himself, the big chestnut Reynolds Bow and Emperor Charles, a gutsy bay.

The rest he has cajoled and sweet-talked his property dealing friends to supply for him to pilot round the gruelling three-mile amateur tracks during the season.

As it stands, before this weekend's point-to-point meetings, he is one ahead of his nearest rival, Mike Felton, an agriculture merchant from Wiltshire, in the race for the men's crown with 13 wins to Felton's 12.

Last season, Naylor-Leyland only rode six winners and he decided it was now or never to take a tilt at the championship.

"Peter Greenall, the long-time champion, had retired and I saw a vacant throne. I'm 32, and I knew if I left it any longer, it would soon be too late so I started persuading my friends to help."

"I was lucky, they responded magnificently and provided me with a great team of horses," he said.

If he takes the title this season he will hang up his boots, if not, he'll try again next year.

The Porsche-driving father of two, at first sight, is not



Naylor-Leyland, who leads in men's title race

everyone's idea of a jockey - for a start he stands 6'2". But Naylor-Leyland is lucky, his weight is a constant 10st 12lb so he can comfortably make the 12st mostly required, and use a saddle that is a bit bigger than a postage stamp.

He has been riding since he was a small boy but it was when he had his first ride over fences at speed he became hooked on the sport. "It's the competition and the danger that gets you. I love winning and to win this championship is something I've dreamed of," he said.

He considers his business in London is just as cut-throat as riding a tight finish, the only difference is "doing up houses is a lot safer."

He runs his property business from a discreet office in Mayfair, spending two nights a week at his flat in London but as much time as possible with his wife, Jane, and their two children, Victoria, aged 5, and John, 3, at the family's country home outside Reading.

He says that getting fit for race riding bores him to tears. "I really go at it for about six weeks before the first race then the riding keeps me fit. Pounding the pavements isn't for me. I can't think of anything worse."

So far, he has had three falls this season but nothing serious enough to keep him away from his city desk.

"I try not to let racing interfere with business. In fact, the two positively complement each other. Point-to-pointing clears my mind from the clutter that collects there during the week. It's a great way of relaxing," he concluded.

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# Out of the firing line into the sun



McMenemy: has given up the highest paid salary

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Lawrie McMenemy, the most highly-paid manager in the history of British football, yesterday walked away from his post at Sunderland and headed for a holiday in Florida.

Bob Stokoe, who led the club to an FA Cup triumph in 1973, immediately accepted an invitation to act as the caretaker until the end of their troubled season.

Bob Murray, the chairman, was not aware of McMenemy's intentions until an early morning telephone call alerted him to the disclosure in *The Sun*. Yet the resignation of the manager whose annual salary was reputed to be a staggering £200,000 had recently become more and more likely.

Whispers of discontent had grown increasingly louder in the corridors and on the terraces of Roker Park. McMenemy, who agreed to reduce his own absurdly extravagant wage by £75,000 in January, could not help but hear them and last Saturday he saw the visible evidence of the strength of local feelings.

After the home defeat by Sheffield United, he walked out to his car and found that it bore the abusive scratches of native anger. He decided to end a stay of 22 months which had proved lucrative for him but a disruptive and lavishly expensive failure for Sunderland.

"I feel that with me leaving and taking all the controversy about big salaries and boardroom battles with me," he said, "they should get the peace and quiet they need to concentrate on football."

They may require a touch of luck as well to avoid entering the third division for the first time.

Fourteen years ago Stokoe found himself sitting on the edge of glory at Wembley

within six months of his appointment. Now, brought out of retirement at the age of 56, he has only seven matches in which to lift the same club away from the most ignominious moment in their history.

They lie only a point away from being dragged down into the play-off series next month. Since Bradford City happen to be the closest of the five clubs that are below them, tomorrow's visit to Valley Parade is clearly crucial. On Monday they entertain Leeds United, the beaten FA Cup semi-finalists.

McMenemy had promised on his arrival to take them in the opposite direction. In his attempt to stir one of the nation's sleeping giants, he said that his approach would be "hard and a bit nasty", a statement that seemed appropriate for a former member of the Coldstream Guards.

There was no reason for Sunderland's followers to doubt his word. His previous record indicated that success appeared to follow him as closely as a shadow. A year after taking over at Doncaster Rovers, they won the fourth division championship. A year after moving to Grimsby Town, they collected the same title.

A year after taking charge at Southampton, they made their initial appearance in the first division and within three years he had also introduced them to their biggest honour, the FA Cup in 1976. Not only that. A genial personality, he had attracted leading players to a relatively unfashionable club.

MacDougall, Ball, Osgood, George, Boyer, Watson, Blyth, Channon, Keegan, Shilton, Mills, Armstrong and Wright were among the stars that signed the doors to the European stage on four occasions. "With great players, all

you do is drop oil in the works and you know they will do the rest," he said at the time.

"You walk around for half an hour during training so the lads start running around a yard faster, you do your little tactical bit on Friday and then turn up on Saturday to watch them play. If you have a good staff, then that makes the job even easier."

It was to become difficult in 1982. Keegan, his most influential inspiration, left and two of his players were accused, and later acquitted, of committing rape in Sweden. His subsequent leadership over the next two seasons was described by Ted Bates, his predecessor, as "the best of his career". But the longest-serving manager in the Football League who had never experienced a first class game himself needed a fresh challenge. Sunderland was to offer it.

At Southampton he was able "to sit behind the hedges and relax a little bit more". In the north east, he found himself exposed to "hassles". His new side also started poorly and, although he recruited a host of experienced individuals, it never showed adequate signs of a genuine improvement.

"The perfectly balanced team," he once stated, "is seven road sweepers and four violinists."

But the only music he has heard has been the discordant notes of disenchantment. Now he has taken the painful decision to leave the area that is his birthplace and to which his heart belongs.

In a place where "football is regarded as a religion and where big names are looked upon as gods", he imagined that one day he might end up on top of Grey's Monument in Newcastle. If he does, it will probably only be as a scroll of graffiti.



Stokoe: has seven games to prevent relegation

## Sunderland look to Stokoe for salvation

By John Wardle

Bob Stokoe, who became a Sunderland legend when he guided the club to FA Cup victory in 1973, was yesterday handed the task of keeping the club out of the third division.

Bob Murray, the Sunderland chairman, approached Stokoe after learning of Lawrie McMenemy's decision to quit with seven games remaining of an unhappy season.

Stokoe, who has spent much of the last year playing golf since leaving Carlisle United, jumped at the opportunity. He said: "I'm thrilled and delighted to be asked and it's flattering to have the fate of the club in my hands for the next three weeks. I didn't need any persuading because they didn't have to sell the club to me."

Stokoe came face to face with the size of his task yesterday when he met the Sunderland players. He said: "I found a lot of long faces in the dressing room and it's up to me to improve the situa-

tion. I will talk to the senior players and take it from there, but I am not kidding myself it is going to be easy."

"It is not an appetizing situation when you have picked up only one point from six games and the players don't enjoy playing at Roker Park. I can only promise that I will try my hardest to lift them."

Stokoe's first home game is on Monday against Leeds United, the team Sunderland beat at Wembley 14 years ago and Stokoe pleaded with supporters to back the side.

Much of Stokoe's long managerial career has been spent in the lower divisions, with the FA Cup his greatest triumph. "I haven't a lot of pots to show for it," he said, but Stokoe takes a pride in his ability to bring the best out of players. His talents now face possibly their greatest challenge.

McMenemy's son, Chris,

is ready to stay on to work alongside him.

Stokoe said: "Chris has his own future and is more than happy to stay. He has his career and, if he had walked out, he might have been waiting out on football."

"The last thing I want to do at the moment is show the door to anybody and the fact that he is Lawrie's son doesn't worry me."

Chris, 25, was unaware that his father had resigned until the early hours of yesterday morning, but made it clear yesterday that he would not have considered leaving with the man who took him to Roker Park as coach to the youth and reserve teams.

He said yesterday that they did not have a father and son relationship within Roker Park. "We were manager and coach," Chris insisted. "There is another year to run on my contract at Sunderland, as long as I am wanted, I will stay."

## Dennis wins appeal against dismissal

By Chris Moore

Mark Dennis, the Southampton full back, yesterday won his appeal against the sack by the club when Southampton officials agreed to withdraw their dismissal notice. But the future of the 26-year-old former England under-21, who has been sent off 10 times in a turbulent career is still in doubt.

A statement issued after yesterday's hearing by a Football League management commission said that the club would be making Dennis available for transfer.

Dennis had complained that he could not join another club because his registration had been retained at The Dell. But he had already rejected approaches from Luton Town, Wimbledon and Queens' Park Rangers before being sacked by Southampton last month.

Dennis said at that time that he wished to stay with Southampton because his daughter was settled in the area.

Alan Woodford, the Southampton chairman, and

the club's manager Chris Nicholl refused to comment after the hearing conducted by League management committee members Ron Noades, of Crystal Palace, and David Dein, of Arsenal.

A statement, read out by Mike Foster, a League spokesman, said: "An agreement was mutually reached between Southampton Football Club and Mark Dennis whereby the player is available for transfer at an agreed fee. The notification of dismissal was withdrawn."

Dennis, who was transferred to Southampton by Birmingham City in 1983 because the then manager Ron Saunders was dissatisfied with his disciplinary record, still faces an FA hearing at a date to be fixed on his third charge this season of bringing the game into disrepute.

That follows published remarks by Dennis about nicholl. Dennis was last before the FA because of a tussle with Ian Crook, a Norwich City player.

## Doubts emerge over Chelsea

By John Goodbody

The euphoria surrounding the launching of the appeal for £15 million to keep Chelsea Football Club at Stamford Bridge is disappearing like the mist on an April morning.

Despite heavyweight backing from two government ministers, Dick Tracey and David Mellor and also Sebastian Coe and Sir Richard Attenborough, both long-time fans, the odds are that Marler Estates will succeed in its determination to redevelop the whole site of Chelsea, meaning the likely loss of the club's choice of playing at Loftus Road, Queen's Park Rangers' ground.

The £15 million that Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, thinks he needs to buy the ground from Marler Estates when the lease expires in August 1988 is a gross under-estimation of its actual value.

David Bulstrode, the chairman of Marler Estates, who also owns Loftus Road, said yesterday that Stamford Bridge was actually valued at £17½ million last year and prices have risen considerably since.

Judith Hambley, a property analyst at Kleinwort Greaves Securities, said yesterday: "Mr. Bulstrode is correct about this. House values have also gone up by about 25 per cent in the area since last year. In my view the land alone is now worth between £20 and £25 million and this is more likely to be £30 million in 1989."

"Mr. Bates has underestimated the amount of money needed to safeguard Chelsea's future at Stamford Bridge. £15 million is far too low and I hope the supporters will not be disappointed."

## Another ground must be found

Under the terms of the lease Mr Bulstrode has to give Mr Bates an option to buy the ground. But if there is a dispute then it would go to an independent arbitrator who is a chartered surveyor.

If Chelsea have to move then Marler Estates must find them alternative, comparable accommodation within 15 miles. Loftus Road would be suitable although Chelsea would certainly dispute this. A court would have to decide.

Miss Hambley said that groundsharing in areas where property values are high and club resources low was "inevitable", something that many of the Continent's most famous clubs have discovered.

"By unmaking the wages of the grounds we could have far higher quality stadia than we have got. These would not necessarily be in the same place but quite possibly somewhere else," she said.

Miss Hambley also thought that it would be difficult for Chelsea Community Trust, which was announced on Wednesday, to raise further money to develop five acres of the ground with a 160-room hotel, community recreation centre, housing development and with the stadium being rebuilt on a smaller site.

"Hotel operators are not willing to put in money themselves and Stamford Bridge is on the edge of Chelsea. It is not that attractive to tourists. If anyone were to develop that site, they would have to raise the money and so could not offer that much for the land alone," she said.

## Borough wants to save clubs

A further problem is that the proposed partial redevelopment, proposed by the Trust, may not get planning permission from Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Council.

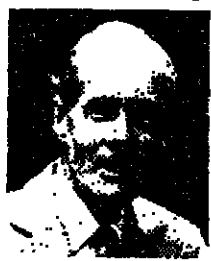
The borough has always wanted all three football clubs in the borough - Chelsea, Fulham and QPR - to survive. But the previous Tory council gave Mr Bulstrode outline planning permission for Stamford Bridge.

The outstanding feature for which permission is still needed is landscaping but a council planning official said yesterday that this was "not a serious problem."

But he did say that if a partial redevelopment were proposed this would need separate planning permission. "I have not seen the details but this will be difficult to achieve without compromising or infringing council policy on density requirements. This includes the heights of the building, the problems with traffic, and the daylight for adjoining properties," he said.

It seems the problems of Chelsea Football Club, the Chelsea Community Trust, the Save the Bridge Appeal and Mr. Bates have just begun.

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Founder, Grove Campus Leonard Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO, DFC.

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We also reach out to elderly and disabled people living in their own homes, and to families with a handicapped member who may be struggling alone in isolation and despair. 19 Family Support Services in England provide vital part-time help at crucial times of the day - a lifeline indeed. But many, many more services are needed to plug the yawning gaps in state provision. Only 2.3% of our income is spent on administering this large charity.

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## Dooley is taken to task by columnist

By John Goodbody

Wade Dooley, the police officer and England lock forward who punched Phil Davies, the Welsh No. 8, in last month's rugby union international at Cardiff Arms Park has been sharply criticized in the monthly magazine of the Police Federation.

In the magazine *Police*, the gossip column *Dogberry* said Dooley's "usefulness to the force as a sporting ambassador is ended. The English Rugby Union's one much suspension is a pathetic response to his action, especially when it was accompanied by an intimation that he would still be available for the World Cup."

"If the police authority grants Dooley paid leave to go off to Australia, they will be adding insult to the force's injured pride."

Dooley, a community beat officer in Blackpool, who with three other players was publicly admonished after the match by the Rugby Union and dropped for the next international, was described

by the magazine as a "lucky man."

"Millions of appalled TV viewers saw him throw the punch which fractured a Welsh player's cheekbone at Cardiff. His victim (an ex-South Wales PC) declines to take legal action."

"In Cardiff last September, a PC was sent to prison for six months, and lost his career after being convicted of biting off part of another player's ear during an inter-force match," the magazine continued.

"If that richly deserved sentence was intended to deter violence by policemen on the pitch, clearly it has not worked." Dooley has been included in England's party to the World Cup in Australia next month.

A spokesman for the Lancashire Constabulary said there was no further comment to add to their statement last month when the Constabulary said: "We do not condone violence either on or off the field. The officer was spoken to by a senior officer after the game."

## Two title-gathering

Two Commonwealth Games gold medal winners, John Lyon and Rod Douglas, are on course to claim a combined 10 ABA national titles. Both had convincing wins in Wednesday night's George Wimpey-sponsored semi-finals at Preston.

Lyon, from Liverpool, unanimously beat Scotland's Drew Docherty on points to move closer to a record equalling sixth title. The 25-year-old glassworker, champion from 1981-84 and again last year, will meet John McLean, a Glasgow soldier, in the

## Two title-gathering

flyweight final. Douglas, middleweight, from the Broad Street ABC, London, took a majority verdict over the Welsh champion, Nicholas Piper, and will start favourite in the final against 18-year-old John Carr, from the North East Counties. Douglas, a 22-year-old hospital porter, won three successive ABA crowns from 1983-85.

The quickest bout came with super-heavyweight James Ovelola's 12-second demolition of the Welshman, Nicholas Howard.

## Saunders' future in doubt

By Chris Moore

Ron Saunders' future with West Bromwich Albion was again looming into focus last night as matters appeared to be coming to a head at the Hawthorns.

It's been an open secret that Saunders is no longer the backing of the entire board of directors, and in recent weeks he himself has made reference to "forces from within" not pulling in the same direction.

His decision to name names at a Supporters Association meeting at Halesowen, where he revealed the identity of two directors he accused of being

opposed to him, poured more oil on the fire at last night's board meeting.

Mike McGinnity, a director, said: "Everyone is entitled to their opinion, but what goes on in the board room must remain confidential."

Saunders refused to confirm or deny he had pointed the finger at anyone. "It was a private meeting at which a lot of supporters let their hair down," he said. "I gave some honest answers and I feel what I said was quite interesting."

● Coventry City, are guaranteeing an FA Cup Final

## Top juniors

Scotland have named two uncapped juniors in their senior men's basketball team to meet Wales at Cardiff on Saturday at the start of the home countries championship campaign. They are Tony McDaid (GEAR) and Alan Kiddie (Falkirk), both of whom were in the Scottish junior team who went down twice to their English counterparts last weekend.

SCOTLAND: Hill, Archibald, Frame (all MIM Livingston), D. Conquer, J. Morrison (both Carmarthen), J. Mitchell (Paisley Glasgow Airport), C. Murray (Boroughmuir), D. McRae (Falkirk), A. Kiddie (Falkirk), T. McDaid (GEAR).

## Lecoute out

Paris (AFP) - Henri Lecoute, of France, has withdrawn from next week's Monte Carlo tennis open and has delayed his comeback from injury until the West German open in Hamburg a week later. Lecoute, who has been out of action since having surgery on a slipped disc at the end of February, believes he needs more time to recover fitness.

## Club warned

Rugby Union's most partisan crowd - at Gloucester - have been told to tone down their behaviour. The warning comes from Peter Ford, the Gloucester chairman, after a series of incidents this season and last. Ford has received letters of protest and said: "It is awful that crowd trouble should be linked to rugby in this way. We ask everyone who attends our matches to show respect to visiting teams."

## Drink ban

Derbyshire County Cricket Club have been dealt a financial blow when magistrates refused them permission to sell alcohol to sponsors and members at home games this season. In the past, their first team games have been regarded as special occasions but Derby magistrates reversed that policy yesterday with the exception of the fixture against the Pakistan tourists. Derbyshire estimate it could cost them as much as £10,000 in lost bar sales.

## Seeds crash

Sally Godman, aged 18, from Surrey, produced the first major upset in the Prudential British junior hardcourt tennis championships at Wimbledon yesterday when she beat Sally Timms, the defending champion, from Woodford Green, Essex, 6-1, 7-6. And in another shock, the top seed in the boys' competition, Colin Beecher, a member of the LTA's elite Tennis School at Bisham Abbey, was beaten 3-6, 4-6, in the quarter-finals by the rapidly improving fifth seed Chris Wilkinson, from Southampton.

Nairobi (AP) - The Toyota team, led by the defending champion, Bjorn Waldegard, of Sweden, took an early grip of the four-day 2,493-mile Safari Rally, holding down two of the top four spots. Waldegard led the 53-car field in his Toyota Supra with 22 minutes and 12 seconds in penalty points at the end of the first section of the seven-section race.

## SPORT IN BRIEF

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